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Thursday December 20 1979
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THE TIMES

The Times Cook:
Christmas in
the kitchen, page 9

No action over breaching of Rhodesia oil sanctions

There were bitter exchanges in the Commons yesterday after the Attorney General said there were to be no prosecutions relating to breaches of the oil sanctions surrounding Southern Rhodesia from 1969. He also said that there were no further investigations into these matters.

Bitter exchanges in House after ruling

Lough Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, writes: A bitter and bitter exchange followed the announcement in Commons yesterday that the Attorney General, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, the Attorney General, said that there were to be no prosecutions relating to breaches of the oil sanctions surrounding Southern Rhodesia from 1969 onwards. He also said that there were no further investigations into these matters. The conclusion that the Government would not prosecute was taken by the Government. The conclusion that the Government would not prosecute was taken by the Government. The conclusion that the Government would not prosecute was taken by the Government.

Successful prosecution would be difficult

The Attorney General promised that this would be considered by Mr. Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the House. Earlier, Sir Michael had said that the Government would not prosecute. The Attorney General promised that this would be considered by Mr. Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the House. Earlier, Sir Michael had said that the Government would not prosecute. The Attorney General promised that this would be considered by Mr. Norman St John-Stevas, Leader of the House.

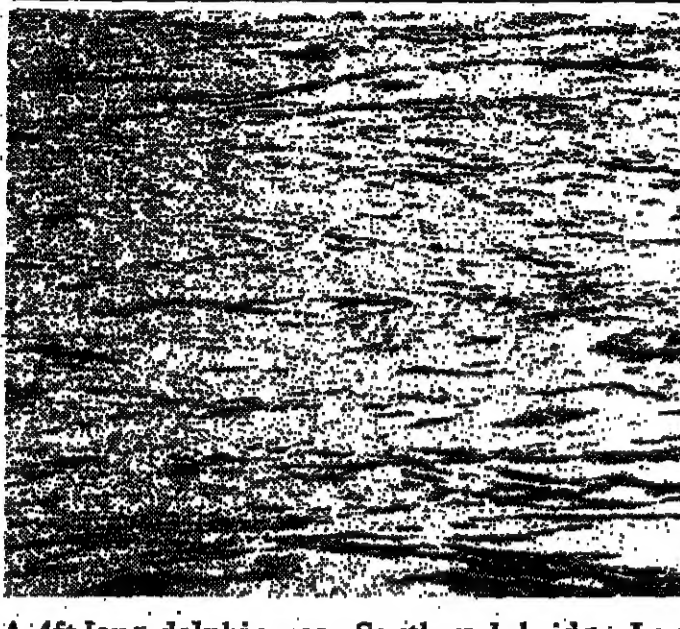
Action on political business ethics

It now to be the case, said, that if a malefactor tried, he was to be in from prosecution? Mr. Hyslop, understood, said people could not be used but would this be of immunity or retrospective to burglary, for instance, across the whole of criminal law? The Attorney General replied he had no problem with individuals in the report at they were simply not the jurisdiction of courts.

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Muzorewa, signing, page 7

National executive overrides Mr Callaghan and votes to cease paying Community taxes immediately Labour Party demands study of British withdrawal from EEC

By George Clark, Political Correspondent. Running true to form, the left-wing radical executive of the Labour Party yesterday spurned the advice of Mr James Callaghan and others who wanted a more diplomatic approach, and passed two highly controversial resolutions. The first on Europe stated: "In view of the lack of progress to meet British demands at the Dublin summit, Britain should immediately cease paying all EEC taxes, stop ministers attending EEC meetings, and decide to undertake a study of the options open to us, including amending Section 2 of the European Communities Act and withdrawing from the EEC, and to prepare alternatives for Britain."



A 4ft-long dolphin near Southwark bridge, London, yesterday. It has been seen regularly in the Thames for two weeks.

OECD foresees 3.5m more jobless next year

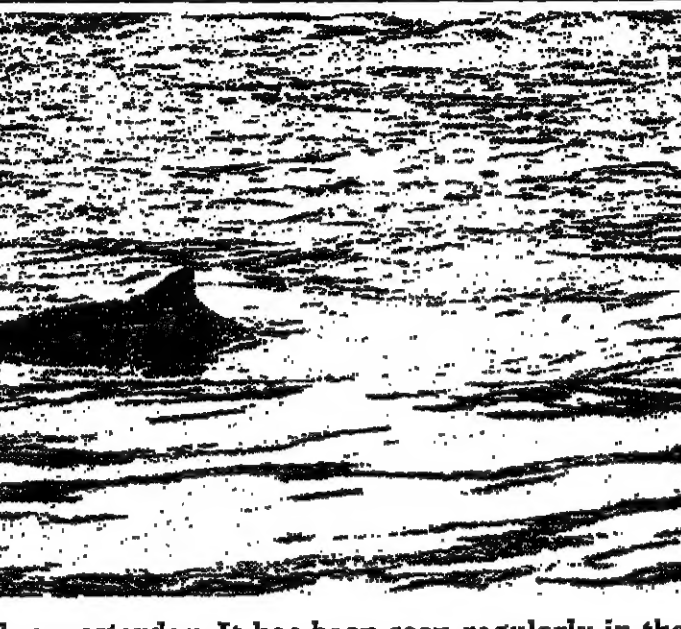
From David Blake, Paris, Dec 19. The western industrial year faces a bleak start to the 1980s, with unemployment next year rising by 3.5 million as output stagnates and inflation rises, according to the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The OECD calculates that the oil price increases already announced this year and likely to emerge from the Caracas meeting of Opec will hit western economies as hard or even harder than the quadrupling of oil prices in 1973. Britain is expected to bear the sharpest brunt of next year's recession, with unemployment climbing by nearly 400,000 by the end of next year. There is a clear fear that the western world may soon find itself trapped into a slow growth path with constantly rising unemployment or with high inflation rates so deeply imbedded in the system that they will be virtually impossible to get out. If that happens, it is feared that a collapse in economic growth would happen in any case.

'Remarkably merciful' jury clear four of plot

Four people, said by the Crown to be part of a band of would-be anarchists who were accused of plotting to rob and arms offences, were cleared of charges at the Central Criminal Court last night by a jury that had been vetted. Judge King-Hamilton described the disclosure as outrageous and irresponsible, and ordered a fresh panel of jurors to be selected and subjected to the same "vetting process" as the previous panel. He also called for an investigation into the press leak of a confidential report on the results of the original jury vetting.

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The second resolution concerned the infringement of civil liberties through a misuse by employers of industrial discipline with specific reference to British Leyland. On the first resolution two pro-Europeans, Mrs Shirley Williams, the former MP for Hereford and Stevenage, and Mr Tom Bradley, MP for Leicester East, wanted a reference back to the Commons. Mrs Williams argued that a decision approving the resolution would be misunderstood by socially conscious colleagues in Europe. Mr Eric Heffer, MP for Liverpool, Walton, countered by saying that he was not anti-European or chauvinist, but it was essential that Britain should study the options that were open, "supposing we do not get any change out of the Common Market", and particularly out of the common agricultural policy.



A 4ft-long dolphin near Southwark bridge, London, yesterday. It has been seen regularly in the Thames for two weeks.

Letter bomb sent to next chairman of National Enterprise Board

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter. Two more letter bombs addressed to prominent industrialists were discovered in London yesterday. Scotland Yard issued a warning that more devices were likely to appear in the next few days. All five devices discovered this week appear to have been posted in Belgium but were possibly Irish in origin. One of the letters, found yesterday was addressed to Sir Arthur Knight, who retired soon as chairman of Courtaulds to become chairman of the National Enterprise Board. The letter was spotted by a sorter at Paddington sorting office. The second letter was delivered to the home of Lord Croham who as Sir Douglas Allen was head of the Civil Service. He is now industrial adviser to the Bank of England and deputy chairman of British National Oil Corporation. Lady Croham called the police when she saw the letter. The device sent to Sir Arthur was addressed to his home. He sold a year ago; the other was addressed to Lord Croham as a baronet. On Tuesday another device delivered to the home of Sir William Mather, chairman of the Institute of Directors. Two others exploded in sorting offices before they could be delivered. Both are thought to have been destined for Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, where several senior industrialists live. At a press conference at Scotland Yard Det Chief Supr Peter Phelan, deputy head of the anti-terrorist squad, said the devices were powerful enough to kill. They could explode if handled roughly. Mr Phelan said: "In the past these devices have come in waves and I have no reason to think the five would be the end of it. They could be delayed in the post. I think we can expect more for some days yet."

Letter bomb sent to next chairman of National Enterprise Board

Before the court were Vincent Stevenson, aged 25, Trevor Dawson, aged 21, both formerly of Percival Street, East London, and now of no fixed address; Iris Mills, aged 31, a married woman and Roman Bennett, aged 23, both of Kensington Gardens Square, Bayswater, London. They all denied conspiring to rob, and also variously denied charges of unlawful possession of arms: possessing an explosive substance in circumstances giving rise to suspicion that it was for an unlawful purpose; and handling firearms knowing or believing them to be stolen. Mr Michael Worsley, for the prosecution, had said that the four were part of a band of would-be anarchists who conspired to attack key targets and institutions in British society. He alleged they were involved in a plot to rob supermarkets and other places to finance the purchase of arms and bomb-making materials.

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appeal from Sir John Boyd, general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, for the party not to interfere in an industrial dispute, the executive passed by 11 votes to nine a resolution stating: "This NEC will strongly oppose any infringement of civil liberties through misuse by employers of industrial discipline and will give full support to all efforts to resist attempts by this Tory Government to break down trade union organization and believes that the only way to save British Leyland is through a long-term government commitment to a new model strategy." This wording, summarizing a longer version that had come from the Home Policy sub-committee, was drawn up by Mr Callaghan, but did not include a reference to Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed shop steward. Mr Callaghan said that the NEC should heed the advice of Sir John Boyd, and keep out of the dispute.



Hans Küng, Swiss theologian, defies ban by Vatican on teaching.

Hans Küng defies ban by Vatican on teaching

Tübingen, Dec 19.—Professor Hans Küng defied a Vatican order banning him from teaching and held a 90-minute lecture today for a tumultuous, overflowed audience of 2,000 at Tübingen University, West Germany. About 1,000 students, professors, university employees, and ordinary Tübingen residents crowded into a lecture hall to hear the 51-year-old Swiss-born priest declare that he would resist the teaching ban issued yesterday by the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome. The lecture was transmitted to another auditorium crowded by 1,000 people. Clifford Langley, Religious Affairs Correspondent, writes: Apprehension at the present direction of the Church in Rome was close to the surface in Anglican circles yesterday. A number of leading Anglicans responded to an inquiry from The Times with cautious but clearly felt anxiety. Professor Küng is the one Roman Catholic theologian Anglicans feel an instinctive sympathy for. He has had the title "Catholic theologian" stripped from him by the Sacred Congregation. The Anglican liking for his work is not mainly directed at those of his views which have most annoyed the Roman Catholic authorities; his important creative On Being a Christian is widely regarded as a masterly defence of Christianity against secular scepticism, and a particular tonic to the Church of England. His conversation about papal infallibility has not gone unnoticed in Church of England circles, but there is more to it than that. Five authoritative figures approached by The Times responded with concern. Archbishop Michael Ramsey, the previous Archbishop of Canterbury; Professor Henry Chadwick, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford; Mr Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the General Synod of the Church of England; and Archbishop Ted Scott, Anglican Primate of Canada and chairman of the executive committee of the World Council of Churches, deplored the trend in Rome as exemplified by the actions.

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Fire to be held narrow

In tomorrow the Rhodesia ceasefire test is to be signed in London. In motion events leading to an independent Zimbabwe in March. Bishop Mwaambi is no longer delaying the signing of assurances from Lord Soamesbury that no new concessions had been made to the Patriotic Front guerrillas. The Soames team has started in taking the bias out of Rhodesian history.

Burial of ayatollah

A funeral cortege of Ayatollah Khomeini, shot dead by gunmen in Tehran yesterday, passed peacefully by the Embassy, despite the common belief that the CIA was responsible for his murder. Iranians appeared in the streets to see the American might blockade their ports, as it can be imported across the straits.

Nuclear safety secrets to be published

The Central Electricity Generating Board has responded to criticisms of secrecy over nuclear safety by announcing that it is undertaking to publish the safety analysis for individual power stations. Leading Soviet scientists have concluded that such power stations are safer than oil or coal-fired ones, and are no threat to populations or environment. Pages 4 and 5.

Earnings up 16.7 pc

Wage settlements in October were 16.7 per cent up on a year earlier but still failed to keep pace with inflation. The level of settlement was sharply higher than in previous months, showing that government warnings that large pay rises would lead to unemployment have not been heeded. Page 17.

England defeated

Despite a fine defensive innings of 99 not out by Geoffrey Boycott, who became the third Englishman to carry his bat through a Test innings in Australia, England lost the first Test match in Perth by 138 runs. John Woodcock page 16.

Steel unions agree to fresh pay talks

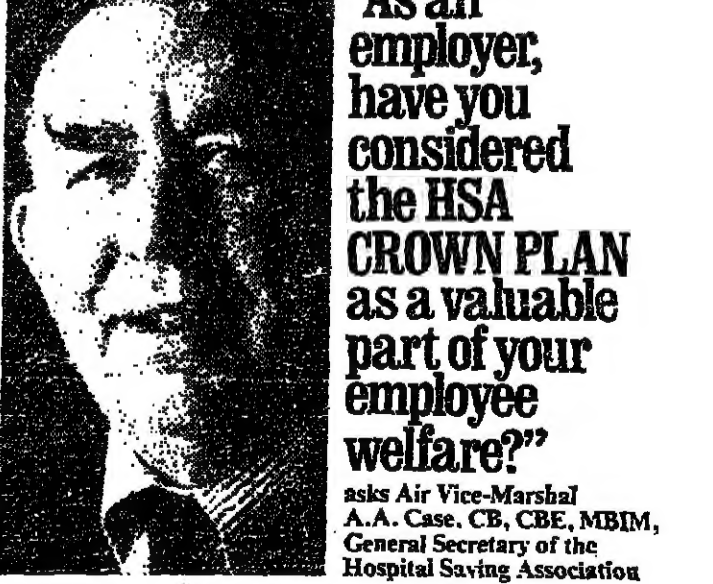
The executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation agreed with reluctance to take part in fresh talks on pay on the invitation of British Steel. However, it unanimously reaffirmed its decision to strike from January 2. An improvement in the basic offer of a 2 per cent rise is demanded. Page 2.

Brutality allegations

Some patients at Broadmoor special hospital were brutally treated and some staff were intimidated by a small group of bullying nurses, it was alleged by two nurses who recently resigned from the staff. They said electro-convulsive therapy was known among patients as the punishment box. Page 5.

Leader page, 13

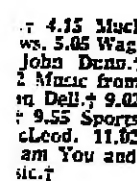
Letters: on a nuclear deterrent, on the death of Sir John Woodcock, and on the writ of summons, from Sir John Woodcock. Arts, page 11. Leading articles: Brezhnev's birthday; Unemployment and sickness benefits; The Labour hymnal. Series 3. Politics, page 14. Group Captain Robert Halley, Professor P. R. Crowe. Books, page 10. Robert Middlesdale reviews Politics in the Industrial Society by Keith Middlemas; Richard Holmes reviews Margaret Drabble and John Fowles. Sport, pages 15-16. Football: Scotland out of European championships after losing 1-3 to Belgium; Tennis: Tony Roche retires. Features, pages 3, 12. Ian Bradley on Lord Dacre's move to Cambridge; Ronald Butt says the Government's cry must be for patriotism; Bernard Levin hails the London cables. Arts, page 11.



As an employer, have you considered the HSA CROWN PLAN as a valuable part of your employee welfare?

The HSA is in business to pay cash benefits to employees and their families when away sick in Hospital or Nursing Home. Because it is a benevolent, non-profit-making association these benefits, in commercial terms, are outstanding. The CROWN PLAN, fixed contributions (25p or 50p a week/£13 or £26 a year) cover the whole family for a wide range of tax-free benefits - admissions to Hospital or Registered Nursing Home (£90 or £180 a month for Contributor and/or spouse; children under 16 one-third), convalescence, maternity, dental treatment, spectacles, chronic illnesses, home help and specialist consultations. The 50p Option doubles the 25p Option benefit scales, and family cover may be further increased by husband and wife having separate memberships and cross-claiming. The CROWN PLAN has over 355,000 individual Contributors, mainly in some 6,000 commercial and industrial Groups, paying by payroll deduction. Health insurance is a valuable concession in wage negotiations and some firms now pay CROWN PLAN contributions for their workforce. May we start a CROWN PLAN Group in your organization? Please write to me for details of how the CROWN PLAN can give your staff financial protection in times of sickness. Hospital Saving Association 30 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3LT 11 Randolph Place, Edinburgh EH3 7TA

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HOME NEWS

Complaints of sadism and brutality on Broadmoor patients

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent
Some patients at Broadmoor special hospital are brutally treated, and some staff are intimidated by a small group of bullying nurses, it was said in London yesterday.

Allegations of ill-treatment, including the use of electro-convulsive therapy (ECT), in one case without anaesthetic, known among patients as the "punishment shock" were made at a press conference given by the National Association for Mental Health's Mind campaign.

Two nurses who recently resigned from the staff of Broadmoor for two years, and Mr Tony Van Roon, a staff nurse for four years, alleged that 50 of the 300 nursing staff had a deplorable attitude to patients and in the male wing about ten were "real sadists".

Mr Tony Smythe, director of mind, said successive Secretaries of State knew about the appalling conditions in the special hospitals, Broadmoor, Rampton, Moss Side and Park Lane, but took no action.

The two Broadmoor nurses, who were interviewed by the department of Health officials, had been interviewed by Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for Social Services. His profound disapproval of the allegations would be done unless the matter was made public.

The allegations would "rub salt in the wounds" of many devoted nurses, but there was no more oppressed minority than mental patients in special hospitals.

They were unpopular, with a proper complaints system did no one to speak for them. The allegations required urgent re-examination of the system.

A senior consultant psychiatrist at the hospital, it was alleged, had given ECT to a young schizophrenic patient who was held down by his nurses. He was obviously in much pain.

In a catalogue of alleged incidents at Broadmoor, the two nurses say that patients were hit and kicked, had wet towels twisted round their necks and hot and then cold water poured over them.

Patients were put into seclusion or periods of confinement for a month for breaking a minor rule, taking back to a nurse or swearing.

Most patients, it was said, were kept quiet by large doses. Some received over 1,000 milligrams of meprobamate daily.

Mr Byrne and Mr Roon were seen by DESS officials. Mr Byrne said yesterday that he resigned the day after the Prison Officers' Association discovered this identity. "I feared physical and psychological reprisals," he said. "I served only one day of my notice."

The "bully boys" on the staff marked any nurse who did not agree with their attitude. A nurse could be isolated and left to cope alone with a difficult patient.

Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, vice-chairman of the all-party Mental Health Group, said there appeared to be strict codes among staff about what was talked about.

Nurses in the special hospitals belong to the Prison Officers' Association or no organization at all. At Broadmoor some nurses also tried to set up a Royal College of Nursing group. The attempt failed.

The allegations are under police investigation and the DESS last night declined to comment.

Group seeks welfare pledge from Government

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent
MPs are urged today to ask why the Government has no plans to reduce the numbers dependent on supplementary benefit or to provide claimants with adequate incomes.

Those points must be raised during the second reading debate on the Social Security Bill, the Child Poverty Action Group says in a briefing to MPs.

The Bill is intended to reform the supplementary benefits scheme, break the link with earnings for increased pensions, and to give the Government powers to implement the EEC directive on equal treatment for men and women in social security schemes.

The Government has made clear that the Bill will not increase social security expenditure or lead to many people being removed from the supplementary benefit scheme.

In its briefing, the group argues that the Government is ignoring the advice of its officials in introducing a no-cost Bill since any effective reform must cost more.

The Government should be asked to say whether it is aiming to reduce dependence on supplementary benefit in the long term, and if so how it intends to achieve that aim.

Much of the Bill is based on recommendations in Social Security, the review of the supplementary benefits scheme carried out by officials at the Department of Health and Social Security. The review was strongly criticized by a number of influential bodies, including the Supplementary Benefits Commission.

The action group's briefing draws MPs' attention to the general opposition expressed to the idea that the supplementary benefits scheme should be adapted to a mass role, an idea now to be implemented in the Bill.

"It is inexcusable that the Government has rejected the advice of the SBC and of the DESS civil servants who carried out the review that the highest priority should be given to extending the long-term rate to the unemployed," it says. At the best cost there were 215,000 unemployed claimants who had no supplementary benefits for more than a year; that would be the new qualifying period for the higher long-term rate for all other claimants under pension age.

The Bill is expected to be opposed on second reading today by Labour MPs, mainly because the Bill intends to raise pension increases to price rises. They are also concerned about the changes to the supplementary benefits scheme, particularly the proposal to make local social security officers the determining authority for claims.

Backache and sciatica could be induced by poor lifting techniques. It was common in the retail trade and woodworking. High blood pressure could be related to work with heavy

metals, such as lead, cadmium and mercury. Bronchitis could be caused by dust, and cause lung irritation because of the prevalence of dust.

The incidence of bronchitis among coal miners, however, was probably due more to poor living conditions than their jobs because their wives had the same incidence rate. Pneumoconiosis had been steadily declining because of the reduction of coal dust levels.

Dr Duncan said that one of the most important tasks the service was undertaking was in establishing acceptable standards of exposure for workers to toxic substances. In the past, not enough trouble had been taken in putting sound biological data into determining such standards.

He said: "If we do not get the science right, the end results will be wrong." The report gives details of the work done in establishing standards for asbestos, asbestos substitutes, lead and carcinogens. It also outlines the survey commissioned by the service on the effects of white asbestos

and the service's own register of all workpeople exposed to lead.

It gives examples of the service's case work. During 1977 and 1978 16 doctors and nurses advised tattooists on sterile techniques, blacksmiths on how to avoid occupational hernias, and women working in a wallpaper paste factory on how to prevent recurring nose bleeds.

In a prawn-peeling factory it was discovered that the jets of compressed air used for removing meat from prawn tails resulted in the workers suffering respiratory difficulties. The service recommended that the technique be discontinued.

The service also sold 7,000 copies of its booklet Occupational Health Services: The Way Ahead and examined young people with medical employment difficulties and disabled work people through its rehabilitation and fitness for work schemes.

Health and Safety Employment Medical Advisory Service Report 1977-78 (Stationery Office, £1 plus postage, ISBN 0 11 883292 1).



Greater London Council has 40,000 tons of rock salt, 20ft high and as big as a football pitch, at Edmonton, north London, in case of a big freeze

Environmental control reduces rate of industry's acute diseases

By Annabel Ferriman

People at work have rising expectations about their conditions and will no longer tolerate those that were perfectly acceptable 30 years ago, Dr Kenneth Duncan, Director of Medical Services at the Health and Safety Executive said yesterday.

The incidence of most acute industrial diseases was falling because of environmental control, so occupational health workers in future would look more at ordinary diseases which could have been brought about by working conditions.

Dr Duncan, who was presenting the Employment Medical Advisory Service's report for 1977 and 1978, said that such degenerative conditions as backache, high blood pressure and bronchitis were increasing. It was worth considering which occupational factors affected them.

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Gloomy background to housing Bill

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Government's housing Bill is to be published today against the gloomiest background for many years. New building in the public and private sectors has shown a steady decline and the present mortgage interest level, although it has brought a rapid halt to price inflation, has entailed considerable hardship and disappointment.

Ministers claim not to be worried unduly by the fall in the number of buildings being started because capital spending is being diverted to renovation schemes. Of that, however, there is little evidence. What is only too clear is that private home improvement has been seriously inhibited by available grants failing to keep pace with inflation, despite last month's relaxation in the eligibility rules.

Although Mr John Stanley is seen as an amiable and sympathetic minister, the Government's only real initiative in the seven months since it took office has been to affirm its intention to give council tenants a statutory right to buy their homes.

It would also like to extend a similar right to housing association tenants; but there are difficulties with those associations, about half of which are registered as charities and which are legally unable to permit their beneficiaries to make financial profits.

It would also be impossible apparently to give tenants of non-subsidized associations the right to buy without extending the same right to those who rent their homes from private landlords. Difficulties also arise with associations formed as cooperative or co-ownership projects.

Restrictions are likely to be applied to the sale of council properties in national parks, which would otherwise attract second-home buyers and of houses built for special needs, such as those for the old and handicapped. But fears are discounted that villages will rapidly lose the small stocks of publicly owned homes to rent.

Aside from the predictable opposition of the Labour Party and a section of the housing lobby, many people would welcome steps to release more land owned by local authorities and public undertakings for private housing. That would tie in neatly with Mr Stanley's recent promise to permit councils to guarantee mortgages granted by building societies to first-time buyers.

That, according to the campaigners, is particularly cruel for some leaseholders who let their properties realize they have a declining asset and are most reluctant to carry out repairs or improvements.

Mr John Brecher, aged 70, has lived in his Cardiff house, for almost 40 years and three years ago when the landlord died he bought the leasehold, which expires in two years' time.

"I have asked to buy the leasehold but was told that it would cost £3,100. There is no way I can raise that kind of money on a pension."

"I don't know how much I will have to pay in ground rent and how much I will have to pay in lease expenses but people in this area are now being asked to pay more than £150 a year. At the moment I pay £260 a year and I am not even sure if I can afford an increase like that. If I cannot I will just have to give up my home and the landowners and become a tenant."

The reformers say the new Housing Bill must establish the right of every leaseholder to purchase thus amending existing legislation which imposes the necessity of having lived in a property for five out of the past 10 years before the option is open.

They add that it is vital for a formula to be adopted to calculate freehold prices based on the gross rateable value and not the market value.

Under the formula the freehold value of an inner-city terraced house worth £7,000 would be £385 against £1,085 on current valuation practice.

Many old people who cannot afford the cost of freehold purchase and who cannot afford the new ground rent will cease to own their houses and will become tenants in them. If they are unable financially to put their house in order before it is handed over they face eviction.

neglecting his duty, said there had been no excessive drinking. He said he had invited senior ratings into the wardroom to show some appreciation of their efforts when the minesweeper had trouble with hydraulic equipment.

Lieutenant-Commander Simon Stone, for the prosecution, said yesterday that it was not part of his case that the senior duty rating had been drunk.

Lieutenant-Commander Hunter said he had had an injection for toothache a few hours before the wardroom drinks and said it was possible the local anaesthetic had affected his speech. He denied an allegation by the squadron commander that his ship was in disarray.

Captain Edwin Marks, in charge of the Severn Division of the Royal Naval Reserve, described Lieutenant-Commander Hunter as one of the most competent commanding officers.

Lieutenant-Commander Hunter, who denied being drunk, or

BA pleases East Midland television pressure group

By Arthur Osman

The East Midlands forum of unitary councils said yesterday in contrary to reports of it being "shocked" it had been "greatly heartened" by a letter from Lady Plowden, chairman of the Independent Broadcasters' Authority, about the future of commercial television in the region. In it she had acknowledged that the region had a strong case for being a separate commercial television company. It is the only one in England under the current designation of regions that is not served by its own company.

It was reported yesterday that the Lancashire consortium, which wanted to break up the area into the North and East Midlands, would be unsuccessful because the would make no big changes to the current regional divisions.

Mr Colin Slater, of Nottinghamshire County Council, said yesterday: "We have just received a letter from Lady Plowden and she says the authority particularly recorded the case for an East Midlands

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Farmers' plea on drink-driving law

The law should be changed to allow farmers disqualified from driving for drinking offences to drive tractors on the road, a branch of the National Farmers' Union says.

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Cost of school meals to rise by 5p to 35p in February

By Our Education Correspondent

The price of a school meal is to go up from 30p to 35p in February 4, Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the House of Commons yesterday.

The increase will apply to children in all authorities. Entitlement for free school meals will remain unchanged.

Yesterday's announcement does not affect the proposed changes in the law which will allow education authorities to charge what they like for a school meal, and which will restrict the statutory entitlement to a free meal to children in families receiving supplementary benefit or family income supplement.

Many authorities have decided to increase their school meal charges to between 40p and 50p from next April; provided the Education Bill, going through its committee stage in the Commons, is law by then.

The 5p increase would produce a saving of £30m a year. The Government hopes that that will help authorities reach the target of £200m savings on school meals and milk in the financial year from April 1980.

The Child Poverty Action Group described the decision as "a further bitter blow for families". School meal charges had gone up by 40 per cent in the last four months, it said. Child benefits were losing value rapidly because of inflation.

Mr Alistair Layton, chairman of the Association of County Councils' education committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Local Education Authorities, welcomed the decision. Local authorities had been asking Mr Carlisle for an increase since November.

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Man gets five years for crossbow attack

James Ryan, who was said to have tried to kill his bride's lover with a crossbow, was jailed at Winchester Crown Court yesterday for five years.

The court was told that Mr Ryan, aged 38, of Blackfriars Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, learnt that his wife Janet, aged 29, slept with her lover, Vivien Sims, six days after their wedding. He was convicted of trying to murder Mr Sims, aged 35.

After Mr Sims had told Mr Ryan to leave the matrimonial home, Mr Ryan bought the crossbow and bolts, it was stated. Mr Sims escaped death by inches when Mr Ryan fired the bow.

The bolt grazed Mrs Ryan under the left breast, although Mr Ryan did not intend harming her. He admitted causing his wife bodily harm, but denied attempting to murder Mr Sims.

Naval officer is cleared on drunkenness charge

The captain of a minesweeper who invited senior ratings into his wardroom for drinks while the ship was in harbour at Ardrara, Strathclyde, in October, during the exercise Highland Fling, was cleared by a naval court martial at Devonport yesterday of a charge of drunkenness.

Lieutenant-Commander Gordon Hunter, aged 43, a Royal Naval Reserve officer and in civilian life a Bristol traffic engineer, was found guilty of neglecting his duty and sentenced to be severely reprimanded.

It had been alleged that a senior officer from the base at Troon visited the minesweeper Venturer as a result of disturbing reports and found the captain, a junior officer and a senior rating the worse for drink.

Lieutenant-Commander Hunter, who denied being drunk, or

Environment tax urged for heavy lorries

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent
Operators of heavy lorries should be made to pay not only the vehicle's full track costs but also a substantial extra tax on social and environmental grounds, the railway and environmental pressure group, Transport 2000, says in evidence to the Armistage inquiry into road transport.

The Government should also pay the cost of connecting generators of industrial freight to either railways or waterways, and planning policies should attempt to locate freight generators close to rail and water transport.

Heavy lorries are environmentally disastrous and dangerous, Transport 2000 says. During the past 10 years fuel consumption per ton-mile of road freight increased by 8 per cent, Transport 2000 says.

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Happy Christmas
FATHER

A telegram's worth a thousand words.

Even if you've missed the last post for Christmas, you can still send a telegram for delivery by Christmas Day. But please remember the latest time you can send an international telegram is noon December 21st, and for an inland telegram noon December 24th.

In certain countries your message may have to be delivered by phone.

PARLIAMENT, December 19, 1979

Oil companies not to be prosecuted for breaches of Rhodesia sanctions

House of Commons
The Opposition complained that the "minnows" had been prosecuted, the "big fish" appeared to have got away, when Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, reported in a statement that he agreed with the conclusions of the Director of Public Prosecutions that further investigations and public expenditure into possible criminal proceedings against oil companies for breaches of sanctions against Rhodesia would not be justified and that the matter should proceed no further.

Sir Michael Havers (Merton, Wiltshire, C), in his long statement, said:
In 1978 the then Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Sir David Owen) referred the Bingham report to the Director of Public Prosecutions to consider whether further enquiries should be made into possible criminal proceedings for breaches of the Southern Rhodesia Sanctions Order.

Shortly thereafter, leading and junior counsel were instructed by the Director to advise him whether, in the circumstances disclosed by the Bingham report, any offences appeared to have been committed and, if so, by whom.

It will be appreciated that the Bingham enquiry was neither a police investigation nor a trial, and it was not, therefore, conducted within the constraints of the rules of evidence or procedure applicable in a court of law.

In February 1968 and again in February 1969, the Director placed before him the Bingham report and senior officers of Shell and BP. The outcome of those meetings (described extensively in the Bingham report) appeared to have been interpreted by the oil companies, rightly or wrongly, as giving effect to the Director's approval to operate what has become known as the "exchange" scheme whereby oil and petroleum reached Southern Rhodesia.

It was by no means clear whether and, if so, for precisely what length time the so-called "exchange" scheme was operated thereafter.

Against this background the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) appreciated that much more factual information and research into the legal problems were required in order to particularise offences, to identify the principal persons acting on behalf of the oil companies and to collect the admissible evidence. Accordingly a team of senior police officers was instructed to make further detailed inquiries into the material already available.

Steps were taken in April, 1979, under Schedule 1 to the 1968 Sanctions Order to require the oil companies to produce all the relevant documents in their possession or under their control.

It seems that there are over 20,000 files of which at least 14,000 are likely to be relevant. Sorting in mind the substantial amount of time and public money likely to be involved in analyzing this mass of paper and investigating the evidence material available overseas, counsel were asked to give the DPP further advice.

By the beginning of November, 1979, an opinion running to almost 50 pages counsel advised the DPP of the great difficulties in the way of a successful prosecution.

The DPP had to consider the following matters:
(1) The material disclosed by the Bingham investigation was wholly insufficient for the purposes of a criminal trial. Direct evidence by witnesses or from proved documents would be needed.

(2) There was abundant material (as John Morris, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Aberdeen, Lab.) said) in this matter of grave concern not only to this country, but abroad, and an exacting standard of proof of the essential ingredients of the offences.

Also the trial itself might occupy a jury for as long as six months with the risks that attend such an extended hearing.

The DPP has therefore reached the conclusion that further investigation and prosecution would not be justified and the matter should proceed no further.

I agree, (Labour interruptions.)
The DPP has also reached the conclusion that further investigation and prosecution would not be justified and the matter should proceed no further.

(b) who, if any, among the officers, agents or employees of the companies and the relevant period were knowing parties to such supply.

It was also necessary to seek to determine whether the supplies had been made in contravention of the alleged "understanding" with the Government.

(3) Furthermore it was material to have regard to the fact (embodied in the Bingham report) that many of the companies and their officials were subject to the laws of states deeply hostile to the sanctions policy and were liable to penalties for any refusal or failure to supply oil on demand.

There is no power to compel the attendance of witnesses from abroad.

(4) The available material disclosed (and, indeed, the Bingham investigation found) that many of the principal officials concerned in the contraventions of the sanctions orders were not amenable to our jurisdiction.

Some who appear to have been at the very centre of the operations had since died and others had fled to countries where it was difficult in the extreme to establish the complicity and knowledge of the individuals.

Under the prosecution might confine criminal charges to the years 1971-77, the defence would investigate the entire history of events from 1966 onwards.

Those events would cast their shadow over the whole case and this important factor would have a serious bearing on its outcome.

Counsel were of the opinion that a jury might well be reluctant to convict if there appeared to be substance in the defence that those charged had acted in the belief that their conduct had the express or ostensible consent of the authorities.

(6) Finally, it was apparent that as complex and prolonged an investigation as this would probably only reach the stage of a jury's trial in less than four years from now, particularly as the defence would be entitled to require full commitment of the essential ingredients of the offences.

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ministerial responsibility but the matter of the debate and the free vote in this House in February. The fact that the House of Lords disagreed is not an excuse for dropping the matter.

The whole tale reflects sadly on the political and business ethics of this country. It cannot be allowed to drop under legal technicalities.

If the Government has come to the conclusion that it should close the book on the whole sorry subject, let that be declared as a political decision and not be clouded in a legal one.

Sir Michael Havers—He has failed to appreciate the distinction. This is not a Government decision. It is a decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions acting within his proper duties.

For Mr Steel to tell the House that the Government has had months to consider this simply is not so. Counsel opinion was only delivered to the DPP at the beginning or in the first week or so of last month.

It is thereafter that he has, in discussion with me, reached the conclusion he has.

It is not fair to say that the Government ought to be in a position today when I have just made the statement to give a firm commitment one way or another about an inquiry.

Mr Robin Maxwell-Ryslop (Tiverton, C)—If I heard him right, the Attorney General has just said that he is not in a position to give a firm commitment one way or another about an inquiry.

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Will he publish the names of those listed in the Bingham report and to schedules who, in the opinion of the authorities, were vulnerable to criminal prosecution—both persons and companies.

Sir Michael Havers—A huge amount of investigation would be necessary, in the matter of Shell (Mozambique), alone, if one wanted to try to prove the movement of goods from Mozambique to Rhodesia.

It would be necessary to have freight documents, perhaps necessary to the movement of goods from Mozambique to Rhodesia.

There was no reply from the Attorney General but loud interruptions from the Opposition.

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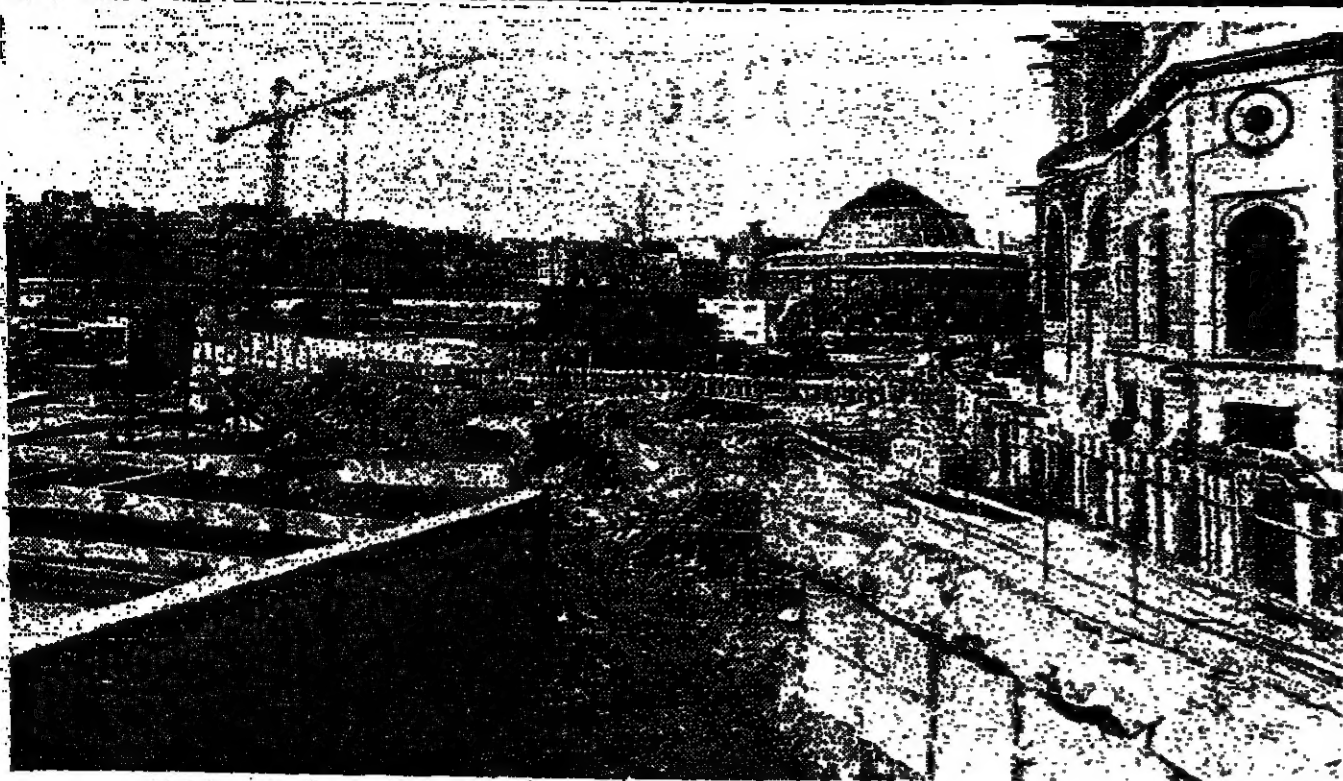
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WEST EUROPE



Parisians' view of the big hole which once was the site of Les Halles and which now is taking a long time to fill.

Chirac plan for Les Halles unveiled early

By Ian Murray

Paris, Dec 19

Another plan for the development of the biggest site in Paris—on the site of former markets, Les Halles—is unveiled yesterday by Mr. Jacques Chirac, the City's Mayor. Unlike the one scrapped last year, this one is on a small scale and is meant to harmonize the surrounding buildings, with responsibility for developing the site handed over to the City of Paris and M. Chirac rather than to the State.

In cancelling the project M. Chirac said that he was making a considerable hole for his own back. He has sought to work discreetly since then to pull together a design both worthy of the site and in keeping with the City's finances.

He failed to do the work secretly, however, because the Syndicat for Architecture found out what was going on and issued details to the press yesterday, thus forcing M. Chirac to show his project a month before he planned to do so.

The result is that the model for the new proposed development still lacks a south side, as it has not been completed in M. Chirac's mind. Presumably it will be so by the original unveiling date of January 15.

The model so far shows a long housing development along the rue Rambuteau by the French architects, Michel

Ducharme, Christian Larras, Jean-Pierre Minost and Jean Chéron. It is high enough to make the only building at present above ground level on the site, a 90ft high concrete bunker housing the machinery which provides essential services to the underground arcades built into the huge hole.

The design, with its bow windows and zinc roofs, is a modern imitation of traditional styles.

For the east side along the rue Pierre-Lescot, the fifteenth design drawn up in the past year by the architect, Jean Willerval has been accepted. A fantasy of metal vaults and glass-covered pavilions it seems to owe not a little to its inspiration to the wrought-iron market "umbrellas" that were pulled down when the site was first levelled. Their object is to provide a covered and at the same time open setting for

small stalls, restaurants and shops.

The garden in the centre designed by Louis Arretche with the cooperation of the sculptor François Lalanne, is to contain pergolas covered with vegetation on a raised terrace along the rue Berger.

M. Chirac claimed yesterday that the new design was the result of the work of the best French architects available. He protested strongly that he had in no way taken the place of the professionals in assembling the design, but had merely made decisions at the appropriate moments.

The Syndicat of Architecture called its own press conference later to say that in their view M. Chirac had made his decisions at the wrong moments.

Their complaint was that the incoherent juxtaposition of designs, and protested about the way in which everything so far had been done in secret.

Reluctance at Vatican to discuss ban

By Peter Nichols

Vatican, Dec 19

Some of the best comments on the Vatican's reluctance to discuss the issue of birth control were made by Hans Küng, a Swiss theologian, yesterday. Today there is a chance to talk about the issue at the Vatican and some of the shoulders are expected to accept that the day of Vatican authority are over.

Mr. Küng, one of his admirers remarked, insisting provocatively and now too has changed. And he is better to spend some reading and less in talking, as he is also suggesting Father Küng's work as a Catholic priest is not enough to give the Vatican the right to speak in its own latest long-playing record in the shops for Christians.

It is the age, ecclesiastical teaching, of the mass media here is not to be from a dispute as to whether the ink is blacker or the pot is really matters is the on of intellectual freedom

within the Roman Catholic Church, whether the issue is seen as a question of mutual charity between the official hierarchy and the theologians or the view is held that the two sides should provide a mutual stimulus.

Put another way, an Italian theologian said today that he has never heard of a Catholic whose faith had been damaged by the writings of a theologian while he knew of many who had reacted strongly against steps of censorship taken by the ecclesiastical authorities.

This was one of the hazards which the Pope faced when approving the statement issued yesterday which put an official end to the time being to Father Küng's work as a Catholic priest. The statement did not attempt an analysis of Father Küng's work, but rejected him because he had refused to bring his thinking in line with the church's teaching authority, despite several warnings.

Everybody interested in these questions knows that Father Küng is not an easy man for the authorities to deal with. He

comes to Rome to launch a new book, but he does not find time (as Professor Edward Schillebeeckx did) to obey the Vatican's summons to appear and answer objections to his views. But that is not the whole picture.

Father Küng wrote a long personal letter to the Pope, asking him not to reinstate traditionalist views and behavior on priests. That letter was not accepted by the Pope. The extraordinary element is that Father Küng has not been able to find out whether his letter was ever received by the Pope.

Decision attacked. The World Council of Churches issued a statement in Geneva criticising the action taken against Professor Küng.

The dispute is in essence concerned with the issue of authority in the church which has become the most sensitive point in ecumenical theological discussion, the council said.

The action taken against Professor Küng, therefore, cannot be regarded simply as an internal affair of the Roman Catholic Church but has immediate ecumenical repercussions.

In brief

Suspicion over envoy's death

Stockholm, Dec 19.—Two Swedish newspapers said that the death in hospital here on Monday of the Zaire Ambassador to Sweden, Colonel Dong Yemo Mobutu, younger brother of President Mobutu, was accompanied by symptoms typical of poisoning. The Swedish Foreign Ministry said the Ambassador had asked for extra police protection shortly before his death.

TV strike stopped

Bonn, Dec 19.—A four-hour strike of West German television and radio employees was stopped almost at the last minute tonight by court order.

Europe tries again

Paris, Dec 19.—A second attempt to launch the European spacecraft Ariane will be made on Sunday, according to a statement from the space centre at Kourou in French Guiana. The first attempt, on Saturday, failed.

Colour bar fine

Paris, Dec 19.—A French hotel-keeper who refused a room to black American jazz pianist, "Champion" Jack Dupree was given a two-month suspended prison sentence and a 2,000 franc (£260) fine for racial discrimination by a Paris court. She was also ordered to pay damages.

Terrorist jailed 15 years for Stockholm siege

Bonn, Dec 19.—Siegfried Haag, a leading terrorist and lawyer, was sentenced today for his part in a raid on the West German Embassy in Stockholm in April, 1975.

Twelve diplomats and staff members were held hostage in the embassy by terrorists demanding the release of 26 comrades held in West Germany. Two diplomats were shot dead before Swedish police moved in.

Haag was found guilty of aiding and abetting the seizure of hostages, the murders and the attempt to put the West German Government under duress. The court found he had not participated in the raid but procured weapons.

France puts its ministers on horsepower rating

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Dec 19

The joys of motoring for a French civil servant are unlikely ever to be the same again.

A long memorandum, aimed at energy saving, has been circulated from the office of M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, setting out strict rules and regulations about what can drive what kind of car and when.

From now on, the edict says, no-one below ministerial rank or its equivalent can have a Government car "producing more than 7 hp."

Ministers, along with the Vice-President of the State Council, the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, the senior presidents of the Supreme Court of Appeal and

the Audit Office, the prosecutors for these two courts and the Government's own Secretary General are authorized to have cars up to 11 hp but no higher.

The rules are not to be confined to Paris. The memorandum has been sent to all the prefects of France to advise them that while they are personally allowed to buy 11 hp cars, everyone else within their jurisdiction will be bound by the 7 hp ruling.

M. Barre, who uses an aging 11 hp Citroën DS, is not making it compulsory for the state fleet of 13,912 cars to be changed overnight. This means that the big 15 hp Peugeot 604S and Renault R30s, which are the favourite cars for senior ministers and civil servants, will not disappear until they are in need of replacement.

OVERSEAS

Bishop Muzorewa persuaded to sign ceasefire agreement after assurances by Governor

From Nicholas Ashford

Salisbury, Dec 19

Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council (UANC), today ended his brief resistance against signing the Lancaster House agreement.

At a meeting Lord Soames, the Governor, assured him there had been no substantive changes in the terms of the ceasefire agreement which was initiated by the leaders of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance earlier this week.

Bishop Muzorewa, accompanied by members of the former Salisbury Government of national unity and by Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, commander of combined operations, will leave for London tomorrow afternoon. The formal signing is expected to take place on Friday.

Yesterday, Bishop Muzorewa announced he was delaying his return to London until he received clarification of news reports regarding concessions allegedly made by Britain to persuade the Patriotic Front to accept the ceasefire terms. These clarifications now have been made.

Today, Government House, Salisbury, the Bishop's explanation for delaying his departure, issued a statement aimed at correcting "misunderstandings" published in the Rhodesian press about what had taken place in London.

The statement said the deci-

sion to increase the number of Patriotic Front fighters from 15 to 16 had been taken after consultation with all delegations at the Lancaster House talks.

The statement also said it was incorrect that Lord Soames had been instructed by the British Government to open new assembly areas wherever the Patriotic Front could produce 1,000 or more combatants. These would be created only if guerrillas assembled in numbers greater than could be dealt with at designated assembly places, and considered unlikely, it added.

Continuing his meetings with the country's political, civil and military leaders, Lord Soames today had his first contact with the internal representatives of the Patriotic Front—Mr Cephas Msiya representing Zulu and Mr Maurice Nyagumbo representing Shona. Mr Msiya said the talks dealt with the continuation of the ban on the Patriotic Front, allegations of intimidation by security force auxiliaries, alleged mistreatment of supporters by the police and the confiscation of party property by the authorities when Zulu and Shona were banned 15 months ago.

Lord Soames gave no firm undertakings but undertook to look into these matters. Mr Msiya said he added that Lord Soames told him he would be "firm but impartial" in the talks.

The Zimbabwe Democratic

Party (ZDP) headed by Mr James Chikerema today presented a petition to Government House calling on Lord Soames to end the payment of salaries and expenses to former ministers, senators and MPs from the last Parliament.

The petition pointed out that, for example, Ministers who remain nominally at their posts but who have handed over their powers to the Governor would continue to draw a salary and expenses based on £19,333 a year and other allowances until independence.

The petition stated that the payment of unearned salaries not only constituted a gross misuse of public funds, but gave the recipients an unfair advantage in the coming election.

Mr Chikerema told a press conference that he and the six ZDP members who sat in the last Parliament would stop receiving their salaries from the end of this month. If Lord Soames failed to take any action he would take the matter to court. He added, Rev Ndabalingi Simbani, Zanu party spokesman, said that what "non-violent military action" would principally entail would be to halt Iran's exports of oil to Japan and the West, which would stop the flow of oil through the pipelines to the Soviet Union.

Iran is dependent on its food imports, which cost the country \$1,000m a year and amount to 35 per cent of its sugar, 33 per cent of its rice and 80 per cent of all vegetable oil.

However, the United States—once a principal supplier of wheat to Iran—has refused to load ships bound for Iranian harbours, Pakistan and Thailand now export foodstuffs to Iran and the Americans would not allow Iranian ships to land with traffic from Pakistan. Likewise, East European imports would continue to flow freely across the frontiers from the Soviet Union and Turkey.

'Terrorist' now 'guerrilla' in Rhodesia broadcasts

From Our Own Correspondent

Salisbury, Dec 19

Rhodesian television viewers were afforded the unusual spectacle last night of seeing Mr Nkomo, co-leader of the Patriotic Front, being interviewed on the telephone by a reporter from the Zimbabwe Rhodesia Broadcasting Corporation (ZBBC) television network.

To British audiences, who have become accustomed to seeing Mr Nkomo's bulky form on their screens almost as regularly as British political leaders, this may not seem unusual.

But virtually since the unilateral declaration of independence in 1965, Mr Nkomo and most other nationalist leaders, who in the past have been classified as "terrorists" by the authorities, have been banned from appearing (and often even being interviewed) on the controlled broadcasting system.

One of the rare occasions that film of Mr Nkomo was actually shown to Rhodesian viewers was when he laughed while being questioned by a BBC reporter about the shooting down of an Air Rhodesia Viscount. Yet there he was last night fielding hostile questions with considerable skill to the extent that he no longer appeared quite the monster of the past.

Mr Nkomo's interview was perhaps the clearest indication so far of the changes taking place at the ZBBC since the recent arrival of the British Service news bulletin each day.

Another is that news bulletins no longer refer to the Patriotic Front "terrorists" but more neutrally as "guerrillas".

Within a day of Lord Soames arriving to take over as Governor a British delegation began top-level talks with the ZBBC over ways of ensuring that its news and current affairs coverage during the forthcoming election campaign was more balanced than in the past, when the radio and television stations were little more than the propaganda arm of the Government.

The British team led by Mr John Hall, deputy director of films and television at the Central Office of Information, has been at pains not to appear to be dictating policy to the ZBBC.

"It is not for me to tell them how to run their station," he says. "The changes that have taken place have been carried out at their own volition. But they are sensible enough to see which way things are going in the country."

Mr Hall and ZBBC representatives are examining ways of making television and radio presentation as fair as possible during the election. This means working out how party political broadcasts will be allocated, giving the broadest possible news coverage of the election campaign and deciding the extent of political advertising.

A big step towards giving the ZBBC's news coverage impartiality will be taken soon by broadcasting a BBC World Service news bulletin each day.

Ceremony opens road to Zimbabwe

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

The signing of the Rhodesian ceasefire agreement is set for noon tomorrow at Lancaster House.

Added piquancy will be given to the occasion by the presence of Mr Ian Smith, the man who made Rhodesia's unilateral declaration of independence 14 years ago, who is expected to be in the delegation accompanying Bishop Muzorewa on his return to London today.

The short ceremony, will set in train events leading to independence for the new country of Zimbabwe next March.

One of the first acts which Lord Soames, the Governor, will take, is to lift the ban on Zulu and Shona, the political parties of the Patriotic Front, and so in effect launch the election campaign in Rhodesia.

The first RAF Hercules took off for Rhodesia yesterday, to prepare the way for the airlift of the British and Commonwealth ceasefire monitoring force expected to begin as soon as the agreement is signed tomorrow.

Meanwhile, a United Nations General Assembly resolution on sanctions condemning Britain and the United States for having lifted sanctions against Rhodesia in support of the Security Council was not being taken very seriously in London, which considers that the underlying reason for sanctions has been removed with the return of Rhodesia to legality.

It is expected that the Security Council will lift sanctions by the end of the week.

Soames' adviser, Mr Robert Jackson, Conservative member of the European Parliament for Upper Thames, has become temporary personal adviser to Lord Soames (David Wood writes).

Lord Soames asked Mr Jackson three weeks ago to join him in Salisbury as an adviser. His role he played while Lord Soames was Vice-President of the EEC Commission responsible for External Affairs.

Mr Jackson, who was born in Johannesburg and brought up in Rhodesia, will be unpaid. Sanctions lifted: Canada and West Germany have announced lifting of sanctions against Rhodesia, and Switzerland intends to do so next year.

—Agence France-Presse.

Korchnoi's son jailed for evading military service

Moscow, Dec 19.—Igor

Korchnoi, son of Viktor Korchnoi, Soviet chess grandmaster, was sentenced to two and a half years in a labour camp by a Leningrad court today for evading military call-up, his mother said.

Mrs Bela Korchnoi, speaking from her home in Leningrad, said Igor was not guilty at the trial.

Korchnoi, who defected in The Netherlands in 1976 and now lives in Switzerland, has been campaigning to get permission for his wife and son to join him in the West.

Igor Korchnoi's conviction

was reported by the official news agency Tass in its English service, but the report did not say what sentence was imposed.

He was arrested in Moscow last month after almost a year in hiding.

Mrs Korchnoi, speaking by telephone, said: "The verdict was that Igor was an especially dangerous criminal who must be isolated from society."

"My son told the court that if he was made to suffer for wanting to join his father, then he was prepared to do so. The court decided there were no extenuating circumstances."

Mrs Thatcher gives US lesson in serenity

From James Reston

New York, Dec 19

In her first and all too brief visit to the United States since the election of Great Britain, Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave the political leaders of this country a few things to consider.

To begin with, she demonstrated by her speech to the Foreign Policy Association in New York that the art of political speech is not dead. This we had begun to doubt. But nobody who heard her here or in Washington, including those who reject her Conservative philosophy, could question her ability to use the English language to reduce the diversity and complexity of contemporary problems to a clear identity and to command the attention and respect of her audiences.

Second, she reminded us that it is possible to be the persecutor of the 1970s. She called the dangerous decade of the eighties with serenity and even with hope.

The challenges to our security and to our way of life in the coming 10 years, she said, may be more acute than in the seventies, but the leaders of the Western nations would need to be firm, calm and united.

"Neither weakness, nor anger nor despair will serve us," she observed. "The problems are daunting, but in my view there is ample reason for optimism."

Mrs Thatcher has been in office for only seven months. She has clearly had time to prove that her policies—tight monetary control, reduced Government spending, curbing income taxes, raising some sales taxes sharply, abolishing Government guidelines and dividend controls, etc.—will actually work.

In fact, inflation is now running in Britain at 17.20 per cent. The basic Government interest rate is now at 17 per cent, mortgages are now costing over 15 per cent, and while the new Prime Minister campaigned as the friend of small entrepreneurs, the borrowing rate for small businesses in Britain is now almost at the 20 per cent level.

These are sobering facts, which outrage the socialists and even trouble many Tories. But it was the spirit of Mrs Thatcher's lectures here that impressed many American listeners who have lately been bewildered by the ambiguities of our own presidential campaign rhetoric.

"The last 10 years have not been a happy period for the Western democracies, domestically or internationally," Mrs Thatcher said. "Self-questioning is essential to the health of any society. But we have perhaps carried it too far—and carried to extremes, it causes paralysis. The time has come when the West, above all Europe and the

United States, must begin to substitute action for introspection."

Listening to her bold confidence and even determination, one could not help remembering the distinction between the British parliamentary system and the American presidential system.

Mrs Thatcher has a reliable 43-member majority in the House of Commons. She can insist on support of that majority to transform her policies into law, at least in the early years of her five-year term. Only some spectacular disaster is likely to bring her down.

President Carter, however, with much larger majorities in the House and Senate in Washington, cannot count on or compel the support of his fellow Democratic members under the United States system.

Abroad Mrs Thatcher insisted that it was time for action in the eighties in order to restore the dynamism to our economies in the West: to modernize the West's defences; to continue to seek agreement with the Soviet Union and its satellites; to help the developing countries to help themselves; to work together to improve the world economy through international trading and financial institutions; to conserve our resources of energy, and to achieve an understanding with the oil producers in such a way that they

Iran shows little concern at threat of US blockade

From Robert Fisk

Tehran, Dec 19

Tens of thousands of Iranians followed the hoarse chanting of Ayatollah Khomeini's closest aides—whose death is regarded by the Revolutionary Council as the word of the American Central Intelligence Agency—might have prompted the mourners to invade the embassy where 50 staff are still being held hostage. But Iranian anger is a carefully controlled phenomenon which usually stops short of outright aggression. Today, for instance, there was no official reaction to reports that the United States was threatening to take "non-violent military action" against Iran if the hostages were put on trial.

An economic blockade enforced by the American Sixth Fleet—far from being a "non-violent military action"—would principally entail—would halt Iran's exports of oil to Japan and the West, which would stop the flow of oil through the pipelines to the Soviet Union.

Iran is dependent on its food imports, which cost the country \$1,000m a year and amount to 35 per cent of its sugar, 33 per cent of its rice and 80 per cent of all vegetable oil.

However, the United States—once a principal supplier of wheat to Iran—has refused to load ships bound for Iranian harbours, Pakistan and Thailand now export foodstuffs to Iran and the Americans would not allow Iranian ships to land with traffic from Pakistan. Likewise, East European imports would continue to flow freely across the frontiers from the Soviet Union and Turkey.

A naval blockade, therefore, while it may look physically impressive—and while it may sound persuasive in the mouth of a White House press spokesman—could take a long time to make its mark on the Iranian economy. Besides, ships which chose to ignore a blockade would face the Americans with an agonising decision: placing a country's economic waters in one thing—opening fire on unarmed merchant ships is quite another.

The Americans could perhaps jam Iran's telephone and radio systems with their own satellite communications. But President Carter would probably think twice before breaking the communications of a country with which he himself is anxious to communicate.

The most pressing communications problem is now must be how the students in the embassy are going to cope with the hundreds of sacks of Christmas mail which have arrived from the United States for the hostages. Among the latest mail to arrive in Tehran is a 10ft by 6ft Christmas card, which appears to have been signed by the entire population of Panama City, Florida.

The students occupying the American Embassy announced on television tonight that Iran's ambassador to Scandinavia, Mr Abbas Amir Entezam, was arrested yesterday on the strength of documents found in the Tehran embassy linking him with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr Entezam was Deputy Prime Minister in the provisional government of Mr Mehdi Bazargan, formed after the February revolution. He was released from the hostages. The students produced documents purporting to show that, before leaving Tehran for Scandinavia, Mr Entezam had declared his willingness to exchange information with the CIA. On the strength of this apparent readiness, the United States, Chargé d'Affaires in Stockholm had been instructed to contact Mr Entezam and arrange for his exchange, the students alleged.

It takes struggles in life to make strength. It takes fight for principles to make fortitude. It takes crisis to give courage and singleness of purpose to reach an objective."

Having paid tribute to Whitman's ideals, she concluded: "Let us go down in history as the generation which not only understood what needed to be done but again had the strength, the self-discipline and the resolve to see it through. That is our generation, that is our task for the eighties."

New York Times News Service. Soviet response: Mr Thatcher's speech showed that it was based on misconceptions that led not to reconciliation of détente, but to the aggravation of tension and an unrestrained escalation of the arms race.

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OVERSEAS

Scientists tell Soviet public that fears about safety of nuclear power stations are groundless

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Dec 19

The Soviet Union's most senior scientists have again publicly defended nuclear energy and said the country is determined to press ahead with an ambitious programme of nuclear power station construction.

But they disclosed at an unprecedented open press conference yesterday that ordinary Russians living near power stations are worried by the safety issue. Their fears were dismissed as groundless.

Limited public debate on nuclear power began only six weeks ago when a nuclear scientist in the Soviet Academy of Sciences wrote in an influential ideological journal that nuclear power stations used up too much land and water, could ecologically exhaust populated regions and could lead to radiation leaks during the transport of fuel containers.

His article was given wide publicity and suggested there was disagreement in senior Soviet scientific circles over the issue.

Yesterday, however, Professor Anatoly Aleksandrov, president of the academy and the chief advocate of nuclear energy, categorically dismissed all doubts: "There are no insuperable problems in atomic energy," he said. "Atomic energy is one of the safest industrial technologies."

He said nuclear power stations were safer than oil or

coal-fired stations, and posed no threat to the environment or to the population.

He gave a surprisingly sharp rebuttal to a fellow scientist, Professor Nikolai Dolzhal, who wrote in *Kommunist* that there was no guaranteed safe and economic way of disposing of spent nuclear fuel. The academician, he remarked, was a specialist only in reactor-building, not in the broader aspects of nuclear technology.

Professor Aleksandrov told the crowded conference, which included diplomats from Britain and other countries using nuclear energy who had been summoned to hear the Soviet viewpoint, that the Russians intended to develop nuclear energy as rapidly as possible.

At present 5 per cent of electricity is generated by nuclear power. By 1990 this figure would rise to 25 per cent, with atomic stations being built with a capacity of up to 1,500,000 kilowatts.

By the year 2000 nuclear power stations would be sited in every part of the country except where coal was plentiful and cheap to extract or where hydro-electric energy was available. A third of all generation would be from fast-breeder reactors.

Future power stations would also be used to heat towns centrally, two such stations now being built near Gor'ki and Voronezh. Professor Aleksandrov ridiculed the suggestion by the distinguished Soviet physicist Peter Kapitza

that they should be sited on remote islands, and he asked how transport and communications would be possible there.

The academician admitted that ordinary Russians were frightened by nuclear energy. He said this fear arose from ignorance and from associations with atomic weapons. But every qualified nuclear scientist in the world knew it was safe to site atomic stations in populated areas, and even near big cities, he asserted.

"There has never been a nuclear accident in the Soviet Union," he said. Western reports of an accident at the Shevchenko fast-breeder station in the Ukraine, one of two now in commission, were untrue.

The *Kommunist* article said the Russians were having difficulties developing fast-breeder reactors, and the programme was at least 15 years behind target.

Until now the Russians have ignored anti-nuclear protests in the West, even by left-wing groups. They have glossed over reports of accidents and blamed Western oil lobbies for artificially exaggerating people's fears.

This position has been increasingly untenable at international conferences, however, and the beginning of a genuine public debate in this country may have been made necessary to authorize scientists to discuss such matters with overseas colleagues.

US hope of accord on autonomy of Palestinians

From David Cross
Washington, Dec 19

Mr Sol Linowitz, President Carter's new Middle East envoy, said today there was a "reasonable possibility" that Egypt and Israel would be able to reach agreement on Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and in Gaza by next May as originally planned.

Mr Linowitz, who was talking to reporters in Washington, returned from his first negotiating mission to Cairo and Jerusalem at the end of last week. He replaced Mr Robert Strauss, who is now chairman of President Carter's reelection campaign.

He said that the agreements reached so far had gone a considerable way towards "fleshing out" what had been the vague concepts of autonomy and self-government. Moreover negotiations on less controversial points like the way in which elections would be conducted, who would vote and how—had been going smoothly for six months.

Mr Linowitz said he was not surprised that Palestinian representatives had so far been unwilling to participate in the talks. While the goal of autonomy remained unclear, the Palestinians were bound not to have much of an incentive to join the talks.

Nevertheless, once the concept of autonomy began to take a clearer form and people could see what was in it for them, Palestinian representatives might well change their minds about taking part in the talks, he said.

Iranians reach front: Major Saad Ghabad, commander of the South Lebanon militia, said today that two contingents of Iranian volunteers had entered Lebanon in the past 24 hours in Syrian Army lorries, which passed border checkpoints without being searched by Lebanese soldiers (see *Middle East* page 1).

As quoted by the Israeli defence forces radio station, the major said one unit had camped in a guerrilla base near Nabatya, which was promptly shelled last night. Unidentified soldiers said Iranian units this morning on the road between Nabatya and the Litani river, the report said.

This was denied by Unifil headquarters. Premier resigned: Mr Modar Rasbi, which included Deputy Minister, resigned today and was replaced by the Chief of the Royal Cabinet, Sharif Abdul-Hamid Sharaf.

Mr Rasbi named a new Cabinet which included Hassan al-Mufid, the first woman in a Jordanian Government since independence.



President Brezhnev welcomes President dos Santos of Angola, at Moscow's Vnukovo airport.

Mr Brezhnev's working birthday

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow, Dec 19

Mr Kossygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, who is reliably reported to be seriously ill after a heart attack, was today nominated for reelection to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic, the equivalent of a local parliament for the country's largest republic.

Mr Kossygin, who is 75, has not been seen in public since mid-October. His daughter said recently in Oslo that her father was seriously ill. He was today nominated for election in

February to a further five-year term.

President Brezhnev was also named as a candidate for a local district in Moscow. He is 73 today, and has been in uncertain health for several years.

No official celebrations have been held to mark the Soviet leader's birthday, which has been spent performing official duties in welcoming President José Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, who arrived on a visit.

Together with Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and other members of the Politburo, Mr

Brezhnev met Mr dos Santos and an official delegation of state and party leaders. Mr Brezhnev is expected to accompany his guests to a performance at the Bolshoi Ballet tonight.

President dos Santos took over as Angola's leader after Agostinho Neto, died in Moscow in September. Although he has close personal connections with the Soviet Union, this is his first official visit. Angola is linked to the Soviet Union by a treaty of friendship.

Leading article, page 13

Martial law in Turkey extended by two months

From Sinan Fisek
Antara, Dec 19

The Turkish Parliament today voted unanimously to extend martial law for two months to 19 of the country's 67 provinces, as training flights and military drills over the capital raised street tensions.

The flights by the Turkish Air Force had been announced yesterday but, some observers said, they found the choice of places, the sun-gilt air of Ankara, and the day of the martial law vote, difficult to explain.

Over the past month, officials of the two largest parties, the main opposition Republican People's Party of Mr Bülent Ecevit, the former Prime Minister, and the ruling Justice Party of Mr Süleyman Demirel, the Prime Minister, have for the first time expressed doubt about the future of the regime. Mr Demirel told journalists recently that "martial law must succeed, for if it does not, we are forced to replace it."

Whenever such "threats" to the regime are mentioned, the possibility arises of military intervention, but today, most observers believe it is highly unlikely that the military will choose to play a role in the country's complex political life.

The economy too is still a shambles; municipal and inter-city buses in some areas are no longer working for lack of fuel, though in others they are forced to live in ice-cold flats because of a lack of fuel-oil and coal, or to move to the homes of more fortunate friends or relatives, or even to hotels. The hard currency shortage is a bad as ever, the inflation rate is expected to reach 100 per cent this year, and the International Monetary Fund is reported to be pressing Mr Demirel's Government to devalue the lira, by a further 4 per cent.

But still, the democratic system is working as demonstrated by the results of the election in October, when Mr Ecevit's Government defeated and replaced by Mr Demirel's conservative minority cabinet.

With the chances of a transition to a religious uprising, the issue of the question in a deeply secular country most independent observers are confident that the military, who see their domestic role as the guardians of democracy and secularism, will not pose a threat to the regime.

The relatively low tone of Wednesday's debates in Parliament seemed to show that the Republican People's Party and the Justice Party may soon cooperate in the new political and economic anarchy

Gradual return to civilian rule for Argentina

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, Dec 19

Argentina's military junta, the supreme authority in the country, today published a document, entitled "political bases of the armed forces for the process of national reorganization."

The document of 7,000 words was handed to President Jorge Rafael Videla during a ceremony in the congress building. He was made responsible for carrying out its programme which aims to hand Argentina over to civilian rule gradually.

It contains no timetable, however, and the word "election" in the sense of suffrage is carefully avoided. It also refers to the "limits of dissent" within which any participant must work.

Policies will be conducted on a multi-party system and party political activity will be resumed when the relevant laws have been worked out.

El Salvador troops kill peasants in farm siege

San Salvador, Dec 19

Twenty-five farmworkers were killed near here yesterday when National Guard troops stormed a landowner's farm which had been occupied by strikers.

The Army announced that 10 other people were wounded and that it had captured 16 guerrillas belonging to the Trotskyist LP-28 movement in the incident at El Congo, 30 miles east of the capital.

A group of landless peasants had taken over the farm where they worked to press their demands for pay increases, the communiqué said.

Troops used bulldozers to try to convince the occupiers, who were supported by guerrillas, to evacuate the farm. Shots were fired and after a four-hour battle, the authorities counted 25 bodies on the scene, the Army said.

The communiqué said the Government was determined to prevent "illegal occupations

which cause so much harm to the national economy."

The Government threatened yesterday to reestablish a state of siege unless landless groups desisted from violent actions—Agence France-Press.

Tough stance: The incident in El Salvador has in the past been common enough in the country, but many people had hoped there would be no recurrence under the new regime (writes Peter Stafford).

The Government was installed by moderate military men, who promised social and economic reforms and an end to repression. Members of the civilian opposition joined the Government, and it was backed by Washington, afraid of having more radical governments in the region in the aftermath of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Various leftist groups in El Salvador have not accepted the Government and have kept up pressure against it.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

The University of Hull

LECTURER IN GEOPHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Geophysics in the Department of Geophysics, University of Hull, from 1 October 1980. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching courses in geophysics, and will also be responsible for research in the field of geophysics. The post is full-time and requires a minimum of 10 years' experience in geophysics. The salary is £12,000 per annum plus pension. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, 68-72, Victoria Road, Hull, HU1 1RN. Closing date: 15 January 1980.

Dorchester Excavation Committee

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSISTANT

With experience of excavation and archaeological fieldwork, the successful candidate will be responsible for the excavation and recording of archaeological sites. The post is full-time and requires a minimum of 5 years' experience in archaeology. The salary is £10,000 per annum plus pension. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, 68-72, Victoria Road, Hull, HU1 1RN. Closing date: 15 January 1980.

GENERAL VACANCIES

RE-SHAPE YOUR FUTURE 1980 THROUGH PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

Recruitment to 25,000 positions. Salaries from £4,000 plus pension. City 018 7921. West 018 9525. City 018 7921. West 018 9525. City 018 7921. West 018 9525.

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Other Appointments appears on page 23

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FRANCE—Gordon Bille

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSISTANT

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FRANCE—Gordon Bille

OVERSEAS

Indian Communists paying price of disastrous alliance after failing to find dynamic alternative

on Richard Wigg
The two undynamic Communist parties, in spite of all obvious shortcomings of the party's three main political positions, have strikingly failed to exploit the opportunity of the coming general election by offering a wide electorate a new alternative.

Both parties, led by men as old as the main parties' leaders, are demonstrating only that thinking and action are tied to their chestnut and deeply rooted social customs, and that they are incapable of moving forward.

The Communist Party of India (CPI), led by the former Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, has invited the "working class" to vote for the alliance of the CPI and the Communist Party of India (CPI(M)), in his party's political broadcast last week.

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even this move was resisted by the party's old guard and brought about a split.

With Mr Singh's faltering election chances, those who stick to the old guard of the CPI(M), continuing preference for Mrs Gandhi may yet prove shrewd judges of the election outcome than Mr Nambudiri.

The choice of alliance with Mr Singh was the awkward outcome of intense manoeuvring in the CPI(M) as the Janata Government collapsed. Caught between the authoritarianism of Mrs Gandhi and the Hindu "communalism" of the rump of the Janata Party, the CPI(M) was left with the lesser evil, as CPI(M) theorists could only see it, of an alliance with Mr Singh's Lok Dal.

The CPI(M), which forms the Government of West Bengal, had hoped that the Lok Dal would help it get a foothold in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

This has worked out disastrously for the CPI(M) in Uttar Pradesh, where it has only been "allowed" to field one candidate (compared to Lok Dal's 78 in total of 85 constituencies) and in Punjab, where its constituency reserved to Harijans (formerly called untouchables), where Mr Gandhi's candidate looks far better placed. There is only one CPI(M) candidate in the Punjab, too, and there in

Bihar, the stronghold of the CPI(M).

The CPI(M)'s tactical alliance with Mr Singh is not the only paradox the party has chosen to live with. It espouses the parliamentary road, largely to defend its bastions in West Bengal and Kerala, where it is at the head of an amazing coalition of leftist, centrist and communist (Muslims and Christians) parties.

Its leaders privately justify this electoral approach on the grounds they must lead the Indian masses along this road "so long as they believe in it". Yet the theorists disapprove of "Euro-communism".

The party's election manifesto is almost as vague as that of Mrs Gandhi's Congress Party faction. The Marxist Communist Party's strategy in these elections is modest: to defend West Bengal after hopes of expanding elsewhere have been dashed by its allies, and to try to prevent Mr Gandhi's return to power—in which case it would probably be among the first victims.

But the Communists' inability to show their election partners in, say, the Punjab that they stand the best chance of winning a new seat is an indication of the party's failure to develop dynamic programmes at the grassroots over the past few years.

Epidemics feared in Kampuchea camps

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, Dec 19

Epidemics of cholera and bubonic plague are feared among more than half a million Kampuchean refugees who have just moved back into the border camps from the Thai border authorities.

Dr Thepanom Muangman, dean of the Public Health Science Faculty at Mahidol University in Bangkok, said after a visit to the new encampments that the Kampucheans were living in appalling conditions.

Sanitary arrangements, he said, were inadequate, and the camps were overcrowded with people, rats, flies and mosquitoes were infesting the sites and food supplies by international aid organisations were being stored in flooded or otherwise unsanitary places.

"The bulk of these people are already ill with malnutrition, malaria and other diseases," he said. "Cholera and even bubonic plague—if something is not done quickly."

The Kampucheans have moved about a mile east of the border since the last 10 days under pressure from Thai Army commanders who said they must either move back to Kampuchea or into a Thai refugee camp.

Eight miles from the border, almost 80,000 have entered the Thai refugee camp at Khao I Dang.

Conditions in the encampments are much worse than the original border sites from which they were driven out, with their grass and bamboo huts with thatched roofs.

Many of the Kampucheans are using stagnant water from ponds and ditches. Food supplies of rice and other staples are being distributed by relief organisations available at the border but not many of the Kampucheans have the strength to carry it as far as their new camps.

Their still depend upon food supplied at the border by the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund and other agencies.

One of the camp leaders said Dr Thepanom was organising a birth control programme for Kampucheans under his leadership and to carry out abortions because pregnant women hampered the fighting against the enemy.

A Thai spokesman said today that 141 Vietnamese, including some soldiers, had been found at the Khao I Dang refugee camp pretending to be Kampucheans.

He said the only answer to the problem was to find a way to get the Vietnamese, who said they were refugees when rescued recently from the northern Philippines, turned out to be trying to reach Hong Kong after having already been expelled from Manila, officials said.

The story was uncovered when the group of 28 adults and 32 children were rescued early this month after their boat had broken down.—Reuters.

The rise of the compleat businesswoman



Ann Burdus is small, elegant and successful—and reigning Times businesswoman of the Year. The award presented last week is her latest accolade in a memorable year. It reached its peak in April when she was recalled from New York to take over within 24 hours as chairman of McCann and Company, third largest advertising agency in the country.

Aged 46, earning a reputed £400,000 so a year—amazingly she turns up on the subject of her actual income—Ms Burdus is a very complete businesswoman despite the industry she finds herself in. Advertising, to the outsider, is the home of creative, entrepreneurial talent with the ability to churn out tomorrow's cliché. Ms Burdus has been through all this from the research side, but has none the less emerged as the corporate woman.

Advertising, despite the over-glamour, is big business. In the United Kingdom alone advertising expenditure is running around the £1,800m mark and London has world-wide status as the second most important centre in the global advertising scene. So Ann Burdus, as boss of McCann, not only carries the responsibility for an agency with £30m of billings but is also an international ambassador for the industry.

Her background is a degree in psychology from Durham University, a stint as a clinical psychologist in a North-eastern hospital, and a period in the advertising world of advertising. From there it was a short step into the full-time world of advertising. In 1971, Ann Burdus was invited to join the board of McCann and Company as research director.

The move to McCann was a decisive for her career. She and two men were installed as a new team to revitalize the agency. For four years she worked the brief, but in 1975 the time came for her to leave her familiar niche and make a contribution towards the running of the company.

In 1975 the board held a two-day retreat to decide where the agency was going to go. Ms Burdus and her colleagues ran the board through a series of decisions, including a long-term strategy. The new objectives included more agencies within the stable to attract competing business, greater growth and opportunities for career

courtesy of the Egg Authority and Milk Marketing Board.

The growth in billings these clients represent—from £10m, in her first year with the company, to £30m in the current year—is a financial measure of her success. Her increasing outside responsibilities, she's on the recently appointed committee for the promotion of British agriculture, and to the advertising industry as a whole, are other yardsticks against which she can be judged.

Little of her success, however, can be attributed to her sex. Like many a tycoon, she's outgrown two marriages on the way to the top: and she doesn't seem to have a strong personal person. But scores of interviews on the subject have made her more articulated than most on the subject of success in general—attaching oneself to successful companies and to successful men—and her own success in particular.

"I've always filled in with more talented people behind me," she points out, "which leaves me free to move on." However, she's honest enough to admit that only the most confident of people could follow such advice. Luck plays its part too, and what she likes to call the "element of stupidity". She's not afraid of opening her mouth, wide, "where a better politician might have been more cautious". Of course, what it boils down to is that she has "never really questioned that my opinions aren't worth hearing".

The firm belief that her views are "as good as anybody else's" make her a supremely self-confident person. That is why she is successful; for she is not a person of hard, clear-cut ambition. In New York she was prepared to wait pragmatically and see what would come up. She feels the same way about her next move in the McCann stable which, as part of the much bigger United States Lateral public group, has prospects in plenty to offer. Ann Burdus, corporate executive and businesswoman, is a woman who puts in a fourteen-hour day but is still "a fun person to work with", has a long way yet to travel.

Margaret Stone

Pakistan gets tougher law

Our Correspondent
Islamabad Dec 19

Pakistan has introduced a new law governing defamation which provides for punishment of up to five years imprisonment, or a fine for failing any matter held to be defamatory, even if the matter is found to be true in the public interest.

The new law amends one of more than 100 years which provided exception accusations held to be true in the public interest.

Amendments to articles 1 and 200 of the constitution will enable police to seize the publisher or editor of defamatory material without a warrant.

Wspapers editors and publishers are said to have opposed the new law. The Council of Islamic Ideology, which has been set up to advise the government on Islamic law, has also expressed its opposition. The Council of Islamic Ideology, which has been set up to advise the government on Islamic law, has also expressed its opposition.

The new law is in addition to the existing law on defamation.

Veiled threat by Peking of intervention in Thailand

Peking, Dec 19—China today again threatened to intervene in Thailand against Vietnam, which it accused of invading that country.

Mr Han Nianlong, the Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, told the fifteenth session of the Sino-Vietnamese talks in Peking: "Now that Vietnam is threatening and invading Thailand, we naturally support Thailand in its resistance against the threat and invasion." The Chinese news agency reported.

Mr Han was responding to allegations by his Vietnamese counterpart, Mr Dinh Nho Liem, of Sino-Vietnamese military collusion against Vietnam. Mr Han also accused Vietnam of "menacing the peace and security" of the whole of South East Asia through its "continued armed provocations" on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

He added: "If you persist in this policy, you will be called to account by history and grave consequences will result."

Despite the deadlock, the Sino-Vietnamese talks, which began in Hanoi and then moved to Peking, will go on next year.

The date for the next meeting has not been fixed, Mr Dinh told a press conference today.

At the meeting today, Mr Dinh repeated his proposal for the immediate signing of a Sino-Vietnamese agreement "to refrain from armed provocations" from January 1. Mr Han rejected the proposal as "perfunctory and cheating".

On Kampuchea and Laos, the two negotiators reiterated the respective positions of their countries.

Mr Dinh said that President Heng Samrin's regime in Phnom Penh had with the help of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries enabled the People's Republic of Kampuchea to make progress.

He called on China to stop immediately its support for the regime in Laos while emphasizing that Vietnam was not prepared to discuss any third country during the negotiations. No progress was made.

During the recent visit to Peking by Mr Nguyen Thieu, the Vietnamese Prime Minister, Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, also spoke indirectly of a possible second "punishment" for Vietnam in Laos and Thailand.—Agence France-Press.

House of Lords

The occupier was just another way of saying the occupier does not have the right to occupy the land. The House of Lords, in a decision which will be a landmark in the history of the law of land, has held that the occupier of a piece of land is not entitled to a tenancy if he is not the owner of the land.

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Report December 19 1979

When survivor is ineligible for farm tenancy

on v Hall
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to quit on the spot. The sons of the deceased, who were the agricultural land, were found to be ineligible for a tenancy of the land, and the House of Lords held that the occupier of the land was not entitled to a tenancy if he was not the owner of the land.

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The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

... But once a year

The turkey looks as if it died of exposure. Will it really keep till Tuesday? Are there enough sprouts to go round? Will the milkman remember the cream? Two extra loaves or three? It is not easy to concentrate either when helpers are laying the table, the cat wants its dinner, the children are over-curious, someone can't find his red tie or the sharp scissors, grandma would like another cup of tea dear, and a third glass of sherry is unwise.

A list — correction, several lists — the only answer is shopping lists, preparation lists, and a timetable of temperatures and cooking times to stick on the kitchen wall.

It is all too easy to run out of something vital like salt or butter, or to forget that the turkey is in the refrigerator, or to forget that the turkey is in the refrigerator, or to forget that the turkey is in the refrigerator.

Easy first courses that can be prepared in advance, and last-minute puddings help to make the task more manageable and more fun. A mousse or a soufflé, a cold turkey and a vegetable terrine, a simple dish using just one kind of smoked fish, and if aspic does not appeal, serve the turkey in individual ramekins. You can, of course, serve the turkey on a rack in a shallow roasting tin.

Smoked fish mousse
Serves six to eight
30g (1oz) butter
30g (1oz) plain flour
1 x 425g (15oz) tin clear turtle soup
1 tablespoon (1 sachet) unflavoured gelatine
300ml (1 pint) double cream
225g (8oz) smoked salmon trimmings
225g (8oz) smoked trout
225g (8oz) smoked mackerel
Juice of half a lemon
Salt, pepper and cayenne

Chill a paté terrine, loaf tin or fancy mould of about 1.2 litres (2 pints) capacity.

Melt the butter in a small pan and stir in the flour. Cook together for a minute or two without allowing the roux to colour, then gradually add two thirds of the turtle consommé, stirring constantly. Cook the sauce on a gentle heat until it is thick and smooth, about five minutes. Set aside to cool.

Sprinkle the gelatine on the remaining consommé in a small pan and leave it to soften for about five minutes. Heat gently to dissolve the gelatine completely, then set the aspic aside to cool.

Pour the aspic, a little at a time, into the chilled mould, and swirl it round, on ice if necessary, until the inside of the mould is coated with a thin, even layer of jelly. Return the mould to the refrigerator.

Whip the cream very lightly until it will hold a soft peak. Using a food processor, blender, or pebble and mortar, reduce the smoked salmon to a smooth purée. Add a teaspoon of lemon juice, one third of the sauce and one third of the whipped cream. Blend lightly together and season well with salt, pepper and cayenne. Spoon the mixture into the aspic lined mould, smooth it over, and leave it to set in the refrigerator.

Prepare the smoked trout mousse in the same way and spoon it in at the top of the smoked salmon mousse. Lastly make the smoked mackerel mousse and add that too to the mould. Chill well.

To serve, dip the mould briefly in hot water and run the mousse out onto a serving dish. Serve it in thick slices with brown toast or crusty rolls.

The simplest special occasion recipe for turkey that I know has no stuffing, no constant basting with honey and butter make it crisp and dark chestnut coloured on the outside, while underneath the flesh is very moist and white. The method, still used in the north of England, was brought to Britain by the Romans who cooked flamingoes, herons and other large birds in this way. Turkeys should be properly hung and dressed in the morning — a process sometimes skimped with frozen birds. This is one of the reasons that fresh turkeys so often taste better than frozen ones. The way to cook the turkey is to roast it slowly in the refrigerator — at least 48 hours for a large bird, 24 hours for a small one.

Honey basted turkey
Serves ten to twelve
1 turkey 4.5kg to 5.4kg (10 to 12lbs) trussed weight
Salt and pepper
225g (8oz) runny honey
110g (4oz) butter

Dry the turkey inside and out and cut off the wingtips at the stockpot. Sew on the inside with salt and pepper. Sew or skewer the large cavity firmly to prevent juices escaping, then tie the legs together with string. Sew the turkey round the parson's nose. Pull the neck skin gently down under the back and fasten it with metal skewers or wooden clothes pegs. Hang the turkey on a rack in a shallow roasting tin.

Melt together the honey and butter and paint it all over the bird, several times until it is well coated. Place the turkey in the middle of a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) and roast at this temperature for 30 minutes only, basting once. Reduce the heat to moderate (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) and continue roasting for about 3 hours more, basting the bird at half hourly intervals. If the turkey is put in the oven straight from the refrigerator it will take at least an extra half hour. To test whether the bird is cooked, insert a skewer into the thickest part of the leg, near the body. It is ready when the juices run clear. Rest the turkey in the oven with the door open and the heat turned off for about 15 minutes before carving it.

Goose with fruit and nut stuffing
Serves six to eight
1 goose 3.5 to 4.5 kg (8 to 10lbs) trussed weight
For the stuffing
140g (5oz) seedless raisins
45g (1½oz) butter
1 goose liver, roughly chopped
1 large onion, finely chopped
110g (4oz) fresh white bread crumbs

3 medium cooking apples, peeled and chopped

55g (2oz) blanched almonds, coarsely chopped
3 tablespoons chopped parsley
1 teaspoon dried marjoram or oregano
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Pull out any lumps of fat still inside the goose and dry it well inside and out. Put the raisins in a bowl and cover them with water. Set them aside to plump up.

Melt the butter in a pan and fry the liver until it is just firm. Take the liver from the pan and set it aside to cool. Fry the onion in the remaining butter until it is soft but not brown.

Chop the liver finely and put it in a large bowl with the onion and butter. Add the bread crumbs, apples, nuts, dried herbs and a generous seasoning of salt and pepper. Mix the stuffing thoroughly and check the seasoning.

Stuff the goose loosely with this mixture. Tuck the parson's nose under the flap of skin above it and close the opening with three or four big stitches. Trust the legs and wings under the bird, tucking in the neck flap skin, or catching it with a stitch if needed. Prick the goose on the legs, sides and lower breast before roasting.

Put the goose breast side up on a rack in a shallow roasting tin and roast in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/390°F, gas mark 6) for 15 minutes. Turn the bird over breast side down and lower the heat to moderate (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) and cook for two hours before turning it breast side up for another two to two and a half hours at the same oven heat. Basting is unnecessary, but save the goose fat dripping for other dishes.

Your goose is cooked when the juices run a pale golden colour. Test with a skewer inserted into the leg close to the body. Rest the goose in the oven with the door open and the heat turned off for 15 minutes before carving it.

Vegetables are just about the last consideration when Christmas menus are being planned, often because the choice is determined by the turkey. But everyone has roast potatoes and boiled sprouts with turkey. New Zealanders' choice of new potatoes and peas with the turkey is a more recent and equally conservative but for their delightful custom of gathering the vegetables fresh from the garden on Christmas morning. The turkey is served straight from the oven, but for their delightful custom of gathering the vegetables fresh from the garden on Christmas morning. The turkey is served straight from the oven, but for their delightful custom of gathering the vegetables fresh from the garden on Christmas morning.

Finland's special potato casserole, *imelletyynperunasalaatti*, must have originated with one of those happy accidents which sometimes occur in the kitchen. Its originality is due to a "miling" process during which starch in the potato mixture turns into a simple sugar. In modern kitchens the chemistry takes place in a very slow oven. But it is not hard to imagine a farmer's wife of long ago leaving a dish of mashed potato near her big wood-burning stove while she busied herself with Christmas breadmaking, and discovering that the potato had turned yellow, sweet, and unexpectedly delicious. Its taste is reminiscent of chestnuts.

Potato casserole
Serves six to eight
1.5 to 2 kilos (3 to 4 lbs) old potatoes
55g (2oz) plain flour
Milk
Salt and pepper
30g (1oz) butter

Peel the potatoes, boil them until tender, drain and mash them thoroughly. Beat the

mashed potato, adding a little milk if it is too stiff to work, and mix in the flour, blending it thoroughly.

Butter a heavy casserole dish, one which has a well fitting lid. Put the potato mixture into the dish, cover it tightly, and bake in a preheated oven (110°C/225°F, gas mark 1) for 5 hours. Check the mixture from time to time, adding a little milk if it appears too dry. This slow cooking will make the potato slightly yellow, and very soft and sweet.

To finish the dish add salt to taste, and pepper, and beat the mixture smooth. Dot the top of the puree with butter and bake it, uncovered, in a moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for about 20 minutes, or until it is browned on top.

Trifle is a traditional Boxing Day and Christmas party pudding. This heavy eighteenth century version is appropriately named a *whim-wham*. It is a child's play to make and can be whipped up at the last moment for unexpected guests.

Whim-wham
Serves 6
30g (1 oz) butter
110g (4 oz) flaked almonds
1 tablespoon caster sugar
18 sponge finger biscuits
Juice of 2 oranges or tangerines
120 ml (4 fl oz) sweet sherry
120 ml (4 fl oz) brandy
450 ml (1½ pints) double cream or whipping cream

Melt the butter in a heavy frying pan and fry the almonds over a medium heat until they are golden. Sprinkle them with the sugar and shake the pan over a low heat until it melts. Spread the almonds on a lightly greased plate to cool.

An hour or two before serving put the sponge fingers, broken in halves, into a large serving bowl. Mix the orange juice, sherry and brandy, and pour it into the bowl.

Just before serving, whip the cream until it holds a peak. Spoon the cream over the sponge fingers which should by now have absorbed most of the liquid. Sprinkle the top with the fried almonds and serve at once.

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Fully blown and British made. Elite glasses make a most desirable gift in their elegant presentation packs. Sherry, liqueur, wine, two sizes of goblets and a dessert dish. From around £2.75 for six.

Available at leading stores. DEMA

Illuminated manuscripts

هذه هي الأسماء

Bernard Levin rushes to the defence of London's Cabbie

The first Wilson government, which

Now, for the first time we have a Tory government with almost nothing to offer to secure popularity. We have already seen what inflation and a 17 per cent interest rate has done to its budget concessions. At the same time it is challenged on the effects of its cash limits on pay, its public spending cuts and its modest measure of union reform. It is the first postwar Tory government to have to abandon the

The year now ends with Mrs Thatcher able to offer nothing but toil and sweat, with more than a few years thrown in. Her Government must, from the outset, make a virtue of necessity and appeal to the larger interest of the nation, for the sake of its survival, against the destructive self-interest of particular groups. It must appeal to reason against the preference for believing that prosperity grows on trees; it must ask for the support of individual trade unionists against the

the never hard, if Mrs. Thatcher is to make the most of this mood, she must see that something like equality of sacrifice accompanies rewards for enterprise and work. That means a change in the company directors as well as the workers from the highest as well as the lower paid. (How many directors, I wonder, cut their own pay when the tax brackets were changed?) In the early 1980s, I think, Mrs. Thatcher, without compromising policy of financial and economic reality, can evoke a national response and national loyalty. It will not be done by the continuance of money management by the same few men in the inner circle of this Tory Government is that it has come to office in circumstances giving it no alternative than to face the task itself and ask the people to do the work.

pendous, so colossal, so gigantic, so difficult to distinguish from the National Debt, that seriously contemplated giving up the idea of abolishing it. But Muller then asked me whether it was worth it, and I said without hesitation that it was.

Nor do I regret the outcry against it in London. First, the comprehensive information-retrieval system that each cabbie carries in his head is in itself a phenomenon worth serious study by some psychologist specializing in memory, though I know of no such study having been done. (The late Dr. Luria would have been ideal for it.) Some say, and they may be right, that standards of cab-driving have fallen and that the incidence of cabbie who don't know the street, the passenger is seeking has risen over the years. As so (I regard the question as still open) it is a pity that the standards are. Unbelievably fierce test a London cab-driver has to pass

More than that, most London Mobbies are extraordinarily helpful; they will go to considerable lengths to help an elderly or infirm passenger frequently found at the front door, but up flights of stairs as well; some even refuse a tip from a passenger who judges to be so strained circumstances.

In my experience, most of the cabs are present-day cars, with tax and tax-meters, and all of them, of course, have the London's deteriorating traffic conditions. I deplore the gradually increasing pollution (and the increasing radio in the driving-section, but I put up with it, as indeed I used to put up with a driver I haven't seen for ten years, and imagine he must be left, as I am, to listen to what the song called "The Fall of the Handdrops" is falling on my head over and over again during the journey, the night-clubbers are guinea pigs for the music, much emphasized by the fact that he could sing

Evening Standard. If you give into his cab and see his name do not trouble to begin brightly, "I see you're from London, is it?" you will find him coming from London, and for at that point he will interrupt you with a snarl of "I know, I know."

Before I leave the subject for today, one last question: why are there so many Jewish cabs? Their incidence is far beyond their proportion of the population, yet I can think of nothing particularly Jewish about the profession, and I have asked several Jewish cabbies, and at least of taxi-drivers themselves, without receiving a satisfactory answer. If any reader has solution—preferably one which does not prove that the Jews are taking over the world or, if indeed, they have not already done so—I would be interested to learn it. Meanwhile, hands off my friend the London cabbie, ringleader of the mob!

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Lord Dacre (Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper) : a departure

Photograph by Michael Ward

REMARKS ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY

...rience is

An ex-Fellow of Peterhouse who has now moved on to considerable academic eminence elsewhere warns that the new Master "will find his old-fashioned High Toryism confronted with a lot of lower middle class social climbers who are trying to look like

It is rather in his essays and his books on more recent history, most notably *The Last Days of Hitler*, *The Philby Affair* and *Sir Edmund Backhouse*, the eccentric sinologist, whose "hidden life" he painstakingly researched after being handed a package

figure in University politics and managed the campaign that led to Harold Macmillan's election as Chancellor in 1960. It was also widely rumoured that he was the author of the Mercurius Oxoniensis column in the *Spectator*. Meanwhile bets are already being placed as to who will be the next Regius Professor.

DIARY

Hine. The connoisseurs' cognac

Mr Faulds wants to build up the Office of Arts and Libraries created by the Conservatives, turning it into a Ministry of the Arts and Heritage, taking on such extra responsibilities as historic houses, museums,

Welsh seek new conquests

The Welsh National Opera demonstrated during their season in London last week that a provincial opera company can compete very successfully with

Next June it is visiting East Germany, which is a bold move. Given the current dominance of East German producers in the operatic world, "It will be an even bigger challenge than London," said the company, "which believes it is the first British opera company to make the trip."

With financial help from the British Council and the East German cultural agency, they will be performing at the

The venue is not as unlikely it might seem: Lawrence lived there for some time in the later years of his life, and his ashes are buried there.

The festival is being organized by Tony Branch, an English resident of Taos, New Mexico. On a visit to London he explained that the festival, Taos and Santa Fe next July, would include a literary conference, with Lawrence scholars and creative writers, and a dramatic recital.

He hoped that among the British writers attending would be Margaret Drabble, Richard

As well as exhibitions, poetry readings and a series of lectures, the Nottingham Playhouse will present plays by and about Lawrence, and there will be a play about Lawrence by professor Williams.

For those who can make it neither New Mexico nor Nottinghamshire, a feature film about Lawrence's last years is shown by Christopher Miles under the title of *The Priest of Desire*. Ian McKellen has been cast in the part of Lawrence.

The main argument against the LSO making pop records is that this could affect the quality of its classical concerts and there is no sign of that.

Ronald Hynd's ballet Papillon, which receives its British premiere next February from the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, includes the pursuit of the heroine by a Shah of Shahs, who is as unkind as the present. She ends up with the witch.

Martin Huckerby

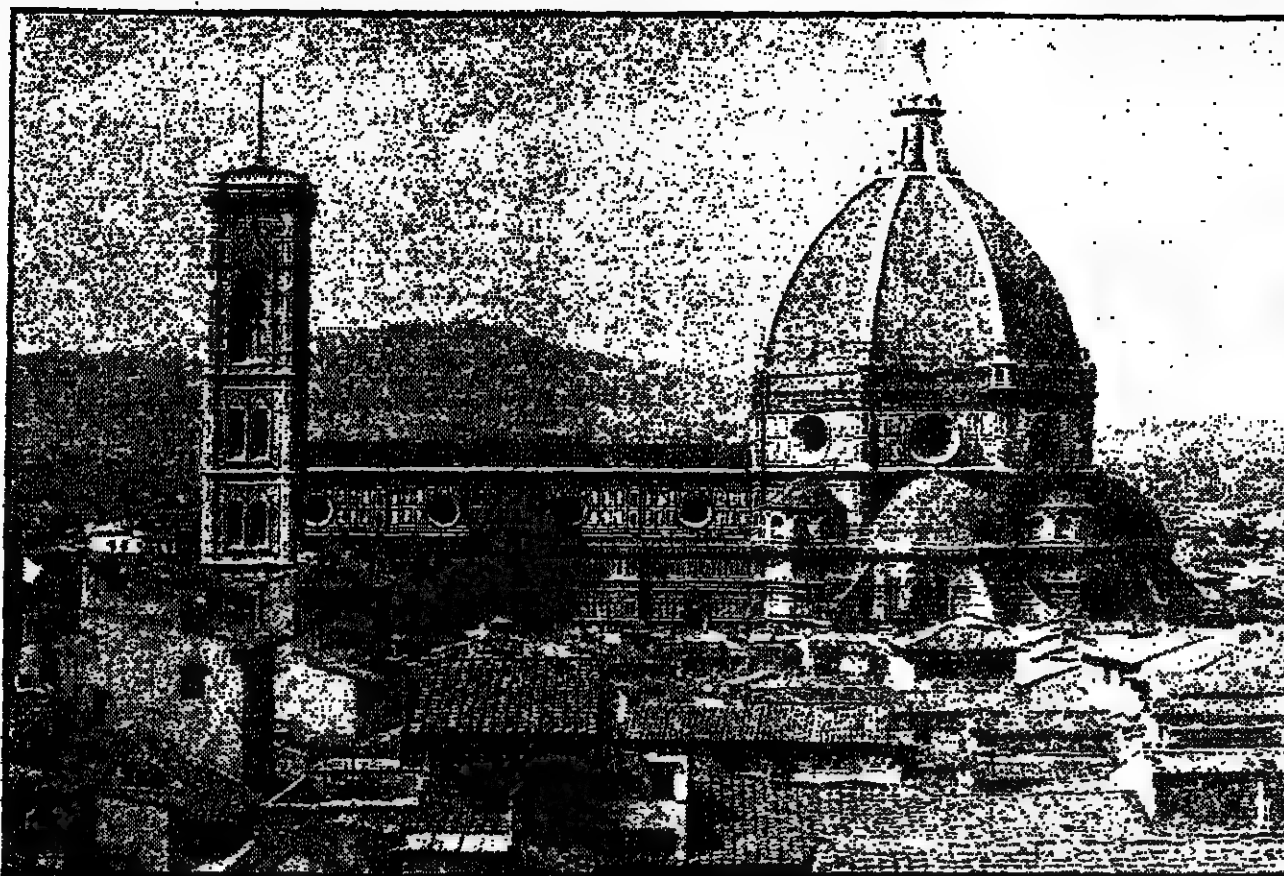
HOLIDAYS IN ITALY



Police Beech samples
rewards; guidelines for
tourist; two new computer
reservations

4. still good value,
how much longer?
John Higgins on Maggio
sale and festivals in Spoleto
Verona

5. yes and bandit hunting in
ischia, green island of
a music and natural springs
is more than a haven for
ch



Page 6.
Wilfrid Thomas visits
Calabria, and finds a place of
strange illusions; Joyce Rackham
eats "little ears" in Brindisi;
secrets of the Cinque Terre

Page 7.
Siena and other pearls of
Tuscany; J. C. Trewin on the art
treasures of Friuli and the Veneto

The large picture shows the Duomo in
Florence. A vast exhibition of the arts
under the Medici, to be staged in the
city and elsewhere in Tuscany throughout
the spring and summer, is previewed by
Marina Valzey on this page.

Where life is always lived to the full

were taking our pre-
ease on the balcony of
all hotel in a modest
perched on a hillside
miles inland of the
ian coast. The name of
wa has gone from my
ry, as has the exact
but it was many years
and my first visit to
I was trying to acquire
for Campari-hopping
lché drink would dis-
my rawness and look-
th my companions at
ssing scene, and the
y beyond.

There were arpeggios of
eridency, dramatic move-
ments from the gesture
section and delicate weaving
passages from the young
men on Vegas.

As a contrast to the moun-
ing chaos, the view beyond
was of silent hillsides and
mellow-tiled houses among
the vines and olives, of nar-
row, timeless tracks thread-
ing among the fields. Some-
where out there was the
village of Pontedassio where
I had discovered—but re-
fused to believe in—a
spaghetti museum. Away to
the south lay the resorts of
the Fiori Coast.

Looking over the scene in
the square, I attempted a
sage observation. "If ever
the Italians get themselves
properly organized, Lord
help the rest of Europe."

My friend Arthur, older

and wiser in the ways of that
land, looked at me across his
brimming wineglass. "What
makes you think?" he asked.
"that the Italians haven't got
themselves properly orga-
nized?"

The years have flown by
and I have learnt what
Arthur meant. Whenever
there is news of yet another
Italian political crisis, of in-
dustrial unrest, of rising in-
flation, I reflect that little
really changes in that land.
The Italians have much ex-
perience to draw on. They
have known what it is like
to hold sway over a great
empire, they have known
glorious victories and bitter
defeats.

They have invaded. They
have been conquered. They
have tried all the mixtures of
government—emperors and
kings, republics, dictators,
and democrats, the left, the
right and the centre—and
survived magnificently. Sur-
vived to drive appallingly on

some of Europe's most dra-
matic roads, to conjure
dream and content from
nothing (I'll tell you later
about the umbrella painting
competition) to pollute and
abuse, as well as defend and
appreciate, their artistic and
architectural heritage.

I have steadfastly refused
to get "hooked" on Italy,
as so many English people
do, but I like it enough to
appreciate its many moods
and its many pleasures, and
the memories with which it
has provided me. The Vespa
seem to have given way to
the ubiquitous Honda, they
now sell Casper ready-
mixed in pyramid bottles,
but not much else has chan-
ged. Though I am told the
Hotel Vittoria has gone,
which is a pity.

We came to the Hotel
Vittoria at Nervi on an
April morning, having
driven from Genoa along
the Via Aurelia leaving the
"beautiful confusion" that

Charles Dickens described,
and making for the coast of
the rising sun. It was an
establishment that had
clearly seen better days,
but had weathered the pas-
sing years without losing all
of its grand manner.

Gold lettering on great
glass doors proclaimed that
writing rooms, women's
salons and indoor gardens
were available for our
pleasure. Outside a brace
of old men watered the
gravel drive and the gar-
deners which clambered
up the trellis towards pot-
bellied balconies, like bot-
tled Romeo, scarlet with
passion. The revolving door
squeaked and stuck, the
floorboards creaked and
groaned. The lift was slow,
glass panelled and mahogany
framed.

I have since visited many
small, family-run hotels
labeled "a world removed
from the multi-storied

Benidormitories of modern
mass tourism. And although
the Vittoria is no more
there are so many like it,
usually a little way off the
normal tourist track, with
temperamental plumbing,
plain food and clean linen.

There are grander estab-
lishments too, of course,
and more modern hotels
which cater for the package
deal customer. At Rimini
one year I sampled this kind
of Italy, but did not take
it as I should. Until the
evening of the Great Um-
brella Competition.

From my bedroom win-
dow, seven or eight floors
above the promenade, I had
a grand view of the bustle.
The focus of all attention
was a collection of beach
umbrellas—a couple of
dozen, maybe more—opened
wide and set out with plenty
of space between them. They
were quite white, in contrast
to the forest of colourful
brollies on the beach itself

and around the sidewalk
cafés.

On that bright summer
afternoon in Rimini, how-
ever, the white umbrellas
were important. They were
the "canvases" upon which
amateur designers were going
to paint. They mounted
stepladders and began slosh-
ing paint on the brollies,
twirling and twisting them
to make their patterns. The
idea, apparently, was that
the best would be chosen
as that year's official design
by some organization or an-
other, and its creator would
get a prize.

Out of such a simple thing
the Italians built suspense
and drama, comedy and tri-
gamy. The participants flung
paint and temperament
about. Their supporters
whistled and jeered, and
applauded and argued. Chil-
dren, neglected south. I have
walked with an Italian-
American on the hilltop he
bought above the village
it that way.

Only the Italians could

have been as disorganized as
the "organizers" of another
contest I encountered just a
week later in Lido di Jesolo.
They were picking the
year's "Miss Cinema
Europe" and the panel of
international judges included
a journalist from London. I
was introduced to the or-
ganizers and—worse—to the
contestants as "a journalist
from London". They jumped
to the wrong conclusion.

Until the genuine article
turned up I had a great time.
I doubt if such a mix-up
would have happened any-
where else but in Italy.

I have watched the fishing
fleet set sail from Scilla,
seen the thunderous mists
near the rooftops of Venice,
I have braved the traffic of
Naples and driven down the
Highway of the Sun to the
salty, neglected south. I have
walked with an Italian-
American on the hilltop he
bought above the village
it that way.

Only the Italians could

granted, and learnt what it
is really like to love a land
even though you were born
4,000 miles away from it.

I have watched the rich
playing on the Costa
Smeralda and the poor buy-
ing capdles from their
priests in rumbledown vil-
lage churches. There are so
many memories, so many
variations on the theme of
Italy, to crowd my mind,
as they crowd the mind of
anyone who has been lucky
enough to visit that land over
a period.

It must have changed as
time passed, I am sure. But
I cannot pin down those
changes, for the people of
Italy shug aside such things
as they proceed with the
business of living life to the
full. And so far as that is
concerned they have got
themselves properly orga-
nized.

John Carter

Illuminating culture is aim of exhibition

Italy that that pecu-
dicular amalgam
sical and Christian
the Renaissance—
ook place. Changing
ies ensured that
oved slowly to the
of the early stage;
energetic, inquir-
ivorous. So many
buildings and the
gs, the statues and
rks that embodied
mplex movement still
many in situ—that
turies Italy has been
erations of northern
ans the goal of their
summed up for the
in the phrase the
Tour.

magic, astrology, alchemy
and science. Just in-
time for intending visitors, Pen-
guin Books has released
Christopher Hibbert's recent
*The Rise and Fall of the
House of Medici* (£2.50), a
lively, fascinating account
of the early stage;
energetic, inquir-
ivorous. So many
buildings and the
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rks that embodied
mplex movement still
many in situ—that
turies Italy has been
erations of northern
ans the goal of their
summed up for the
in the phrase the
Tour.

devoted to the work of
Luigi Vanvitelli, architect to
Charles III, who created the
ambitious royal palace at
Caserta.

Painters include Fran-
cesco Solimena, an exu-
berant and long-lived
exponent of the baroque,
many of whose frescoes sur-
vive in Neapolitan churches.
Solimena, architect, poet
and musician, was the
dominant painter of the
Neapolitan baroque; Fran-
cesco de Mura, his most
prominent pupil, is also
well represented. Royal
patronage is thoroughly
explored, and once again a
city's past is recreated in a
still-living urban fabric. The
huge special exhibitions will
be open for the first six
months of the year.

Several special trips are
planned to Naples. Grand
Tours has a long weekend,
which will also take in the
ruins of Pompeii and the
medieval towers of Caserta
Vecchia (March 21-25).
Specialtours is arranging a
trip for members of the
National Art-Collections
Fund called Naples to the
Spur of Italy (April 11-25).
This promises a thorough
exploration of the castle,
churches, towns and villages
of the region. Swans Art
Treasures Tour also have a
trip to southern Italy while
the exhibition is on, with
extensive travelling (April
9-23).

And so to Venice, where
in the public gardens of the
city, and in other locations,
the 1980 Venice Biennale
opens on June 1, to run until
the end of September. Here,
the very recent past will be
examined, with a retrospec-
tive of Western art during
the 1970s in the main pavil-
ions, while each national
pavilion is devoted to
special showings of individ-
ual artists. The British are
fielding the young sculptors,
Nicholas Pope and Tim
Head, who devised installa-
tions using a complex array
of projected images.

The Contemporary Art
Society will be organizing a
special trip to the Biennale
during the summer. Other
trips to Venice during the
period of the Biennale in-
clude Heritage Travel's
week, May 25 to June 5,
when Philip Rylands, an art
historian who lives in
Venice and is on the exec-
utive committee of Venice
in Peri, will take the group
on a thorough historical
tour. Each of the firms
mentioned is also organizing
trips to Venice, not neces-
sarily during the period of
the Biennale.

Heading south, another
important exhibition exam-
ines yet another fairly neg-
lected period: the Arts in
Eighteenth-century Naples,
covering the city's cultural
life under the rule of the
Bourbons. There will be
everything—porcelain,
objects d'art, paintings, in-
cluding those by the English
and other artistic
visitors, and a resonant sec-
tion on the rediscovery of
antiquity and the beginning
of systematic archaeology.
There will also be a section

on the rediscovery of
antiquity and the beginning
of systematic archaeology.
There will also be a section

on the rediscovery of
antiquity and the beginning
of systematic archaeology.
There will also be a section

More beds must be filled

Italy is not making the best
of its tourist potential, even
if these past three years
have registered a marked
recovery from the stagno-
lism which prevailed be-
tween 1973 and 1976. It is
increasingly realized in the
trade that sun, sea and
mountains are no longer
enough to sell themselves.
The main problems are two,
or perhaps three—to fill
beds out of season, to even
out the geographical spread
so that the Mezzogiorno gets
its fair share and, possibly,
to lessen dependence on the
holidaymaker from West
Germany.

Tourism is a big revenue
earner for the private sector
and is one of the big sup-
ports for the balance of
payments. The foreign
currency intake went up
from 4,202,000m lire in 1977
to 5,335,000m in 1978 and
will probably exceed
6,500,000m this year. When
the expenditure of Italian
travellers abroad is de-
duced, the net balance rose
from 3,413,500m lire in 1977
to 4,310,500m lire last year.

Tourism, furthermore, is
a valuable labour-intensive
activity in a country tradi-
tionally suffering from
under-employment, as it
gives a living to an esti-
mated 1,500,000 people out
of a national workforce of
21 million.

On a closer look, however,
these statistics are less
impressive. Inflation has
been running in double
figures in these years, and
the lire's exchange rate has
been declining against most
currencies, so the increase
in real terms is much more
modest. Moreover, operators
point out that a tightening
of foreign exchange controls
has brought into official
banking channels a con-
siderable number of trans-
actions which used to go
unrecorded through the
black market.

The country has 42,000
hotels, 250,000 restaurants,
2,000 travel agencies,
1,650,000 hotel beds and a
total bed capacity—including
private accommodation,
holiday villages, residences,
camping sites—of 4,200,000.
Hotel beds are being added
to at an average of 35,000
a year. Total receptive ca-
pacity, according to the
tourist market study, is
twice that of Spain, five

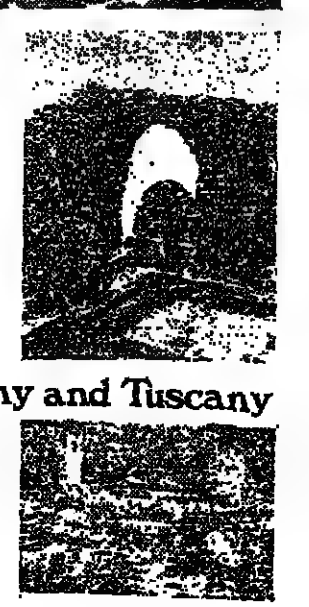
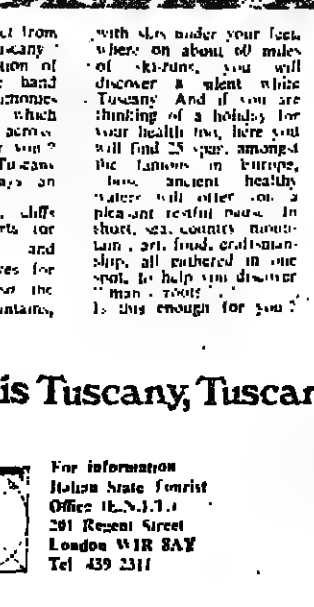
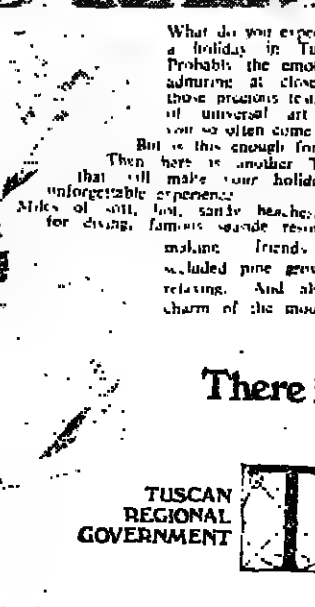
times that of Yugoslavia, and
13 times that of Greece.

But it emphasizes that
these figures give no
grounds for complacency,
for total bed capacity is used
only to the extent of 23.3
per cent, while foreigners
sleep in Italian beds for only
nine nights out of the 365.

The situation is worse in the
Mezzogiorno, as the north
and central regions absorb
65 per cent of the flow of
foreign tourists.

Nevertheless, the number
of foreign visitors is increas-
ing, in spite of—to quote a
study made for BIT—the
Milan Fair's International
Tourist Market—"the
spread of common and po-
litical crises, of the strikes
and obvious inefficiency of
public services, of the fact
that the famous Italian cook-
ing (one of the main tourist
attractions) is becoming
standardized and thus deter-
iorating, that foreign travel
agencies are meeting grow-
ing difficulties in making
their arrangements for the
period of the high summer
season".

Tuscany: Back to the roots of man



There is Tuscany, Tuscany and Tuscany

TUSCAN
REGIONAL
GOVERNMENT

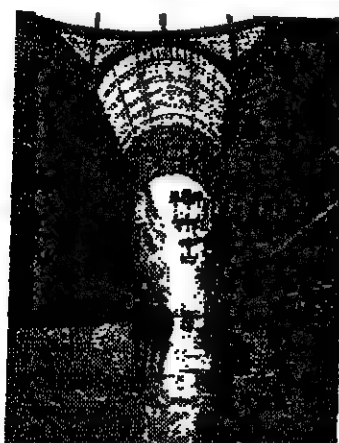
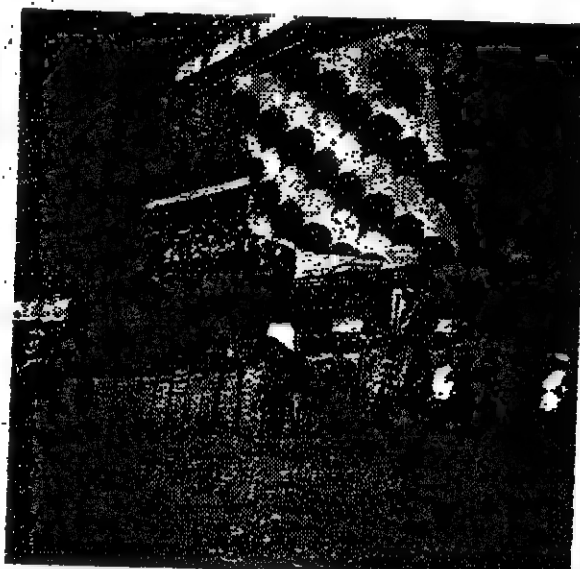
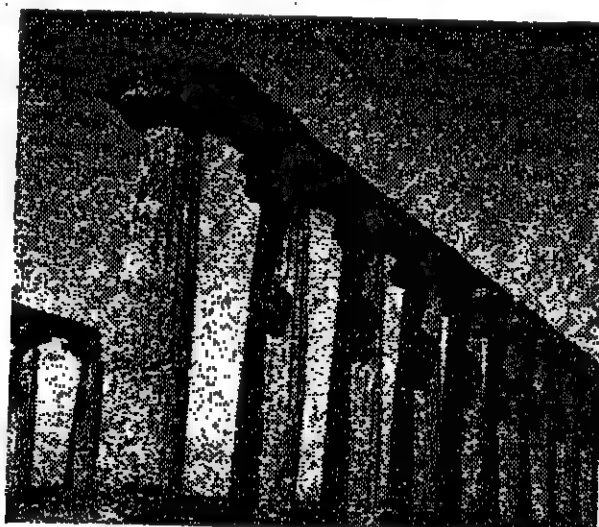
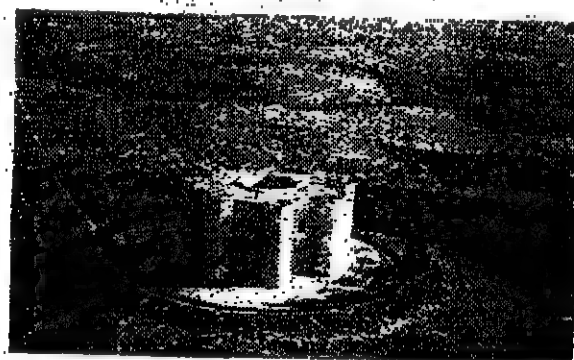
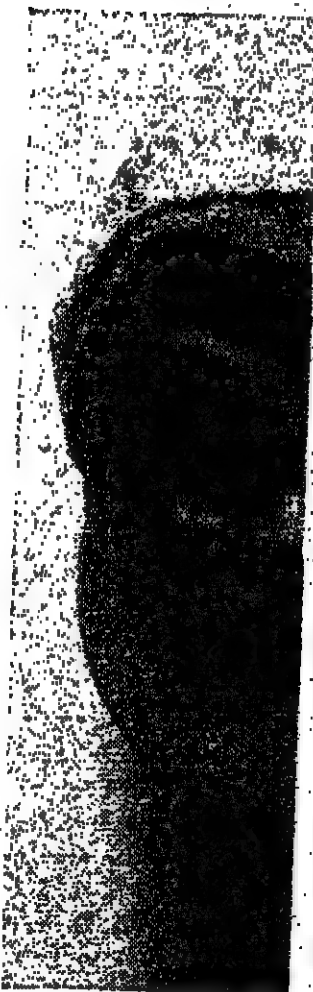
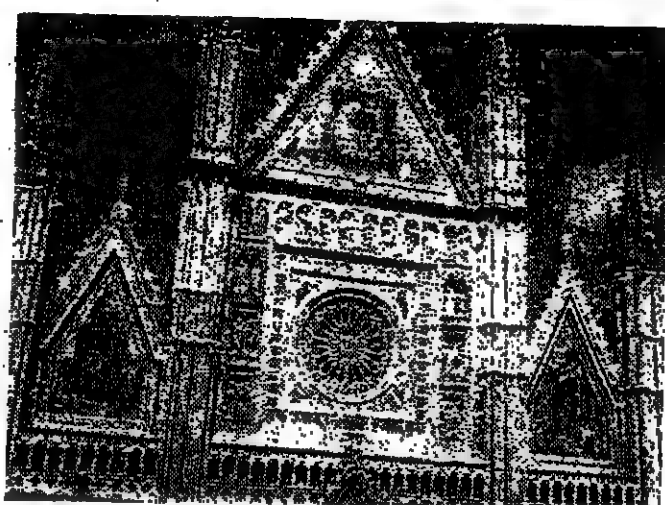
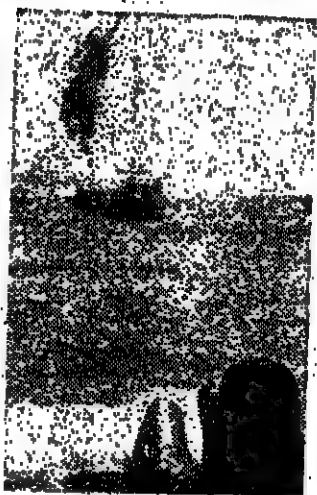
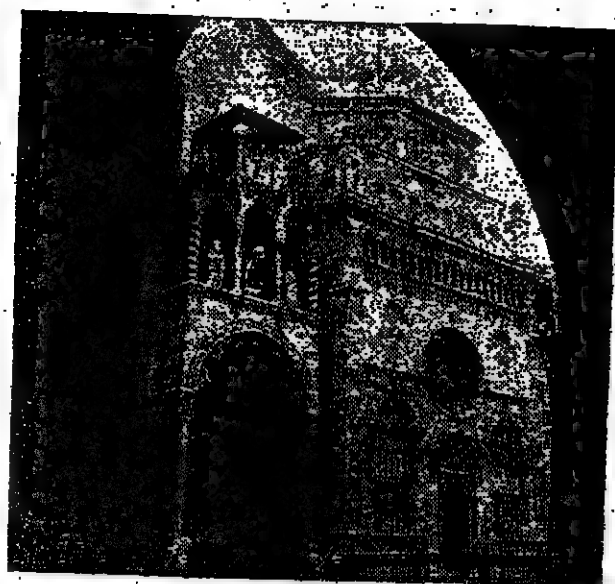


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continued on page 14

Marina Valzey

ITALY



Famous cities, beaches, mountains,
lakes, folklore—we have it all.
Art treasures and masterpieces, history
at every turn. And today's Italy
offers so much more to
the most demanding visitor.
Art festivals, opera and folk music.
Fashion, handicrafts, sports
for every season. Life in the cities

and in the country. Provincial towns still untouched, modern hotels and secluded inns.

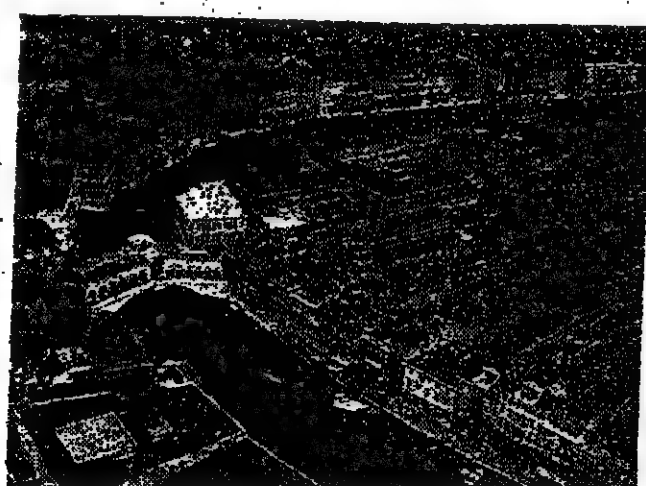
And the most beautiful landscape in the world, the texture of a whole civilization. The art of living, our art of living, the superb wines and food of so many different regional cuisines.

Modern motorways, the best in

**Europe, an extensive network of
air, sea and land communications.**

And some 800 museums, art galleries and archaeological sites, yours to see and enjoy.

Then our people, the warm, friendly welcome
of a country where
hospitality is an art.



Where hospitality is an art



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ISLAND PATTERNS

Brooding beauty with a menacing quiet

My first visit to Sicily about 16 years ago changed my whole approach to holidays and since then, in 30 trips, I have found its attractions have not diminished: there has always been something new and surprising to increase my affection. Yet it is not an easy place to know well. Sicilians are not like the Italians farther north with their charm and easy friendliness. They are private people often taciturn with interest in, and loyalty to, their families over everything else.

Sicily, too, has not yet developed its tourist resorts in the same way as the north of the country. Sadly, however, mass tourism is now approaching, but it is still possible to enjoy a slower pace of life and quiet spots away from the developing resorts. Some of these are so isolated that they are likely to remain their charm for many years.

But, if resorts are what the tourist requires, Taormina—commercialized perhaps but nothing can destroy its splendid setting and the view of Etna—Mondello, a long-established resort outside Palermo. Cefalù, an old town grouped around a remarkable rock structure, and many others have plenty to offer the package holiday-maker.

If it is archaeology which is your interest, there is a wealth of ruins. There is little anywhere which surpasses the majesty and splendour of Agrigento, the solution of the Doric temple of Segesta, the remains of the ancient city of Selinunte, the Greek theatres of

Taormina, Segesta and Siracusa. Civilization in Sicily did not end with the Greeks. The splendid Norman Cathedral at Monreale is just a bus ride from Palermo. The wonderfully preserved baroque city of Noto on the coast between Agrigento and Siracusa is well worth a visit. All the important towns have an array of interesting churches and cathedrals, the simplicity of the cathedral at Siracusa being my favourite.

All this, and I have not mentioned the island's inimitable beauty and almost menacing quiet. No one should miss the mosaics of the Villa Casale, close to Piazza Amerina, nor the enchanting little town of Erice. After many visits, it is the contrasts so close together which delight me most. To climb to the crater of Etna in the summer months brings a respite from the heat of the plains, as well as a real lesson in volcanic activity. With its peak over 10,000ft Etna has in recent years become a charming and not over-crowded winter skiing resort.

Down on the coast it is still possible to swim in clear water, so important to the lives of farming and fishing people. Best of all, perhaps, in the contrast to the heights of Etna, are the depths of the sea with the delights of snorkelling or skin-diving.

Sicily itself is an island, but one of its special features is that it has its own offshore islands. I know the Aeolian Islands to the north-east of Sicily best. The seven islands in the archipelago include Stromboli, world-famous for its well-

behaved volcano which erupts dutifully every day: the sparks of lava flying into the sky at night compare with any fireworks display.

The main island of the group, however, is Lipari, an old-established community dating back to prehistoric times. Today there is a thriving community surrounding the ancient acropolis and medieval city. Lipari is developing fast and has several new hotels with all modern conveniences. An early visit is advised; unless care is taken the unique attractions of the island with its wonderful walks, swimming in clear blue sea and simple pleasures may be lost.

The remaining islands include Vulcano, mythical home of the god Vulcan, today the home of a holiday village with lively social and night life during the months of July and August. Outside these months the island is quiet and a treasure for the geologist with its volcanic activity, including mud baths, hot bubbling sea and smoking volcanoes. In Salina, Filicudi and Panarea there is little for the holidaymaker to do, except to swim, sunbathe and laze in beautiful scenery with amiable companions.

This leaves the tiny island of Alicudi, remote from the others and with a permanent population of about 50 people. There is a small pension accommodation is available in some private homes. There are few advanced holiday activities, but the swimming is wonderful. Snorkelling and skin-diving are abundant. The fish drift through the water like millions of leaves. The variety is enormous; it is a new world.

Lipari traditionally was one of the island prisons, so favoured by Italian governments to house less dangerous criminals. The prisoner lived free on the island with an allowance for food and often was able to live a normal life, often with his family around him. Their only advantage was that they could leave the island and the prisoner could not: otherwise he was able to live a normal life, often with his family around him. Their only advantage was that they could leave the island and the prisoner could not: otherwise he was able to live a normal life, often with his family around him.

For details of package holidays see the tourist office in London or the Italian State Tourist Office, 201 Regent Street, London W1. If you become a member of the Italian Workers' Association (Ali Viaggi, 280, Pentonville Road, London, N1 0J-378, 5197) and anyone can, you can fly directly to Sicily to Palermo or Catania for about £100 return, compared with a normal fare from London of more than £200, changing in Rome.

Margaret Allen The picturesque old harbour at Cefalù, Sicily.



Mass tourism defies the kidnappers

Just over 15 years ago the top right-hand corner of Sardinia was known as the Galkara coast. It was deserted and almost inaccessible from inland. The only way to this craggy coastline and the wonders of the Maddalena archipelago was from the sea.

It was for this reason that some rich people made it their second home. Their yachts could be moored in safety, for rough seas never seemed to reach the bright green inlets of this coast, and they could enjoy a tranquility which was out of reach in resorts such as the Costa Smeralda, as it was from now on to be called, was born.

By 1966 the consortium had invested more than £8m in developing the 35 miles of coast stretching from the Golfo di Olbia up to the small neighbouring island of La Maddalena. Development was in good taste and has remained so, thanks partly to the Aga Khan and partly to the Sardinian naturalist, Agostino, who has a passion for tidiness.

It cannot be denied that the recent spate of kidnappings has had a marked effect on the island's tourist industry. But this is only as far as the wealthy section of the market is concerned, particularly those that have their own villas or apartments. The Costa Smeralda, as it was from now on to be called, was born.

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Reports suggest that the mass tourism section of the industry is continuing to grow. The Costa Smeralda is still accessible to the average traveller, and although it is not as cheap as Spain it has many types of accommodation to offer the less affluent.

Starting near the most expensive, there is the magnificent Hotel Romazzino near Porto Cervo, owned by the Rank Organisation. It looks

out over sunny terraces, lush green lawns and flower gardens which slope down to a private beach which, because of the excellent barbecue, is becoming a favourite stopping place for yachts. Prices arranged through a package deal start from £353 per person for seven nights and progress to £1,189 for 14 nights in the high season.

Overlooking the marina at Porto Cervo is the Hotel Lucide la Maddalena which, too, is set in landscaped gardens. It is popular with British tourists. Prices there extend from £203 for bed and breakfast for seven nights to £619 for full board for 14 nights. This is only a sample of the package deals offered by Magic of Sardinia, a London travel company specializing

in Costa Smeralda holidays. At the other end of the price scale, for the travelling student, there is a youth hostel down by the harbour in Olbia, the main town communicating with the Costa. Called the Ostello Pausanias, it is on the Via Genova, and accommodation for one night costs about £1.80.

For motorists there is one of the few motels on the island at Baia Sardinia, including a British Caledonian return flight from Gatwick, range from £131 for seven days to £204 for 14 days in the high season, which are lower rates than in 1978. Mileage is not charged but there are some local taxes to be paid.

Ted Trott

In a bandit's footsteps

That's where they make their overcoats and diving suits, our Sicilian guide announced as the coach passed a ready-made concrete factory. Not really, of course. Not any more.

The same bright day, Palermo's chief of police is holed out on a busy street in the capital. For real, it is grim reminder for those who see in the Mafia a tourist attraction.

Still, the show must go on: that evening, the guide was taking names for a trip into the mountains to meet the local "godfather".

There will be music, unimpaired wine and your photograph taken alongside a man who, it is claimed, has ordered. Children who had made the trip the previous week said it was a big disappointment. The godfather is old, gentle and oiled like Marion Brando hawking gobstoppers.

Instead, we decided to visit the stamping grounds of Italy's hero, Salvatore Giuliano, sometimes referred to as the Robin Hood of Italy. In fact, he was different things to different people—cold-blooded murderer, an out-and-out bandit, a free-

dom fighter, a separatist leader. Most people say he was shot dead in 1950, after seven years' spent evading troops and police. All admit the circumstances were mysterious.

Giuliano operated in the mountains, his villages and caves, around his birthplace of Montelepre, about 17 miles inland from Palermo. We were taken there at breakfast speed by a guide from the hotel who was pleased to find that mere tourists had heard of the man. In Sicily it is still a matter of great prestige to have been born—as was the guide—in the same village as Giuliano.

The landscape must be little changed. It is a barren rocky place with little vegetation but the prickly pear and spiky aloe. Montelepre has sprouted, its houses resembling a lorryload of boxes tipped down a hillside.

It is neither a prosperous nor a welcoming place. Tourists are soon recognized and coolly regarded in the narrow maze of streets. It is a close community, united in many things, including a low opinion of the forces of

law and order and a claimed relationship with the village's favourite son.

Reminders of Giuliano are everywhere, here a cousin, there a shrine. On the left is a bar run by his family, on the right the house where he lived. His photograph of a handsome defiant man with thumbs hooked over gunbells is seen in picture postcards or framed on bar walls.

During our visit we discovered that his closest relatives do not believe Giuliano is dead, despite photographs of his dead body spread-eagled across a courtyard. The guide says he recently met someone who knew that Giuliano was in the United States.

It is unlikely, but if Giuliano is dead who killed him? Fellow bandits, the police or the Mafia? Or a combination of any two or three?

In a land where people are still murdered for their role in film portrayals of Giuliano's life, there is understandably little desire to rake over the past.

John Huxley

Rich gardens where springs relief

Isola d'Ischia has a beauty all its own. Its precipitous mountain sides and ancient craters are clothed with grape vines, groves of chestnut, olive and oak trees. From the mountains the sea views are ever-changing, violet, crimson, powder blue.

Spring follows early each winter, bringing the golden drifts and the scent of mimosa and the pale glimmers of the fruit blossoms. Days of lovely sunshine alternate with dramatic storms.

Then in the washed air wonderful views emerge of the snow-capped Apennines encircling the horizon of the Bay of Naples. Then, too, early wild flowers abound—violets, purple cyclamen and the golden ginepro, or broom, carpeting the hill-sides before the full flowering of summer bursts on the island.

This beautiful Isola Verde, as it is known locally by virtue of its varied vegetation, was called by the ancient Greeks Pithecusa, and by the Romans Aemelia. Then, as now, Ischia was a centre for the production of ceramics and of light wines. It remains a lovely holiday area, where tourism prospers beside the ingenious agricultural life of the island.

Porto d'Ischia lies 26 km to the south-west of the mainland with the dominant presence of Vesuvius. The charming harbour can be reached by a regular hydrofoil service in 45 minutes, or by car ferry in an hour and a half. It is usually busy with large and small private craft and is surrounded by terraced green hills. It is within easy reach of Capri and other lovely islands of the Campania region.

There are natural hot and cool springs all over the island, with properties which have given relief from aches and pains, or just happy relaxation, from ancient times. Many are now enclosed in quiet landscaped gardens, where one can "take the waters" at varying temperatures. Swimming in the cool, clear seas around the island, one sometimes feels the gush of a warm spring from the sea bed.

There are luxurious hotels with private beaches, tennis courts and thermal swimming pools. Several hotels have resident medical facilities, and all are set in flowering gardens. Or there are more modest hotels, pensions and charming apartments to be rented in private villas, seasonally or for longer periods.

At all seasons the Ischeran countryside or landscape farmers tend their vineyards, orchards and vegetable gardens with the help of their

families. The local wine, often differing in quality and flavour from one slope of Ischia to another, can be even more enjoyable when tasted directly from the cool cave of the grower, rather than from a bottle on a restaurant table, where it is usually named Epomeo, after the 2,585ft high ancient volcano which towers from its terraced foothills.

Many of the small restaurants or trattorie dotted about Ischia—some on high points which necessitate a rewarding climb—will serve their own "wine of the country". And if one must have spirits, English gin and Scotch whisky, as well as Italian brandy and liqueurs, can be bought more cheaply than in London.

Although many tourists in the sea-on confine themselves to the busy day and night life of Porto d'Ischia and its charming neighbour Ischia Ponte, where the Castello Aragonese of the fourteenth century may be explored, there is an excellent bus service to the other towns of the island.

Each has its own character and attractions. There are colourful little "micro-taxis" which whizz around, and the smaller the vehicle the better in the narrow streets. Pony traps for children are popular, and the ubiquitous carriages with their decorated horses ply for hire.

However, walking is the way to discover the many hidden charms of the Isola Verde, its towns and villages and countryside. But if you prefer not to walk up Monte Epomeo there are mules to carry you.

From mules to music. In September, 1978, four outstanding concerts—"I Concerti dell'Isola Verde"—were presented free by distinguished groups of musicians under the auspices of the regional and local tourist authorities.

Surely none can have been given in a more beautiful setting than that of the picturesque remains of the cathedral on the Castello Aragonese, in the moonlight of a perfect evening, in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of the immortal Antonio Vivaldi.

At Lacce Ameno, also on the north coast of Ischia, archaeologists can easily find evidence of the Greek and Roman occupations of what was a thriving commercial colony. Beneath the basilica of the church of Santa Maria della Resurrezione an ancient necropolis has been excavated on several levels.

Barbara Stebbins



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19,000 people daily, as a camping site and with hostels. Unfortunately these hordes of tourists hinder the enjoyment of the *lingua franca* there. Locally, American, Frenchmen give the impression that they would be

as the train pulled out of the station. It was the sort of chocolate box picture that carelessly produced a romantic joy in me. Something keeps taking you back to Florence.

Derek Winnert

and time again, remains the main topic of discussion.

With the single dramatic exception of the coloured marble facade of the cathedral, dominating the big town, Siena is all of the colour to which it has lent

Miracles to the imposing ecclesiastical trilogy of the cathedral, the baptistry with its extraordinary architectural properties which create the famous echo, and the tower.

Nicholas Christopher

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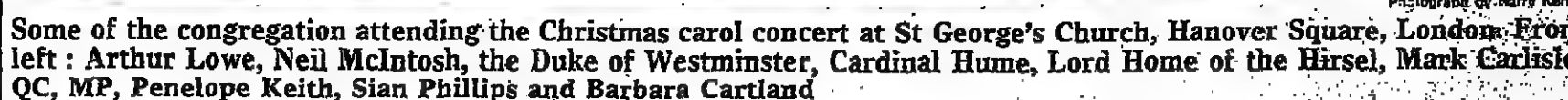


Christmas post
From Mr Vician Vale
Sir, I have just received a circular
letter from an officer of one of our
numerous book clubs. Below his
signature stand the words "Fulfil-
ment Director". Is this circular
novelty, I wonder, the most exact
contemporary rendering of "Father
Christmas" or have any of your
readers come across an even after
equivalent?
Yours faithfully,
VICIAN VALE,
The Warden's Lodge,
South Stoneham House,
Southampton.
December 17.



December 19 : Princess Alexandra presented the 1979 Woman's Own Children of Courage Awards during a Carri Service in Westminster Abbey this morning. The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Lady Mayoress
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, entertained the following guests at dinner at the Mansion House yesterday evening:
Colonel Sir Cullum and Lady Welch.
German Sir Remard and the Hon Lady Waley-Cohen. Sir Frederick Moore, Sir Ralph and Lady Perrine.
Sir Denis and Lady Truscott. Sir Lionel and Lady Dray, Sir Robert and Lady Bellinger. Sir Gilbert and Lady Field. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Lan and the Hon Lady Bowater and Sir and Lady Knipper.



Two orchestras in Festival II

As share lead

Today's engagements
A Child's Victorian Christmas,
Tudor Merchants Hall, South-
ampton. 2.

training that law at least partly in another discipline. He himself had graduated with a London BSc (Econ), but as a geographer he was to develop into a distinguished climatologist. The message of this cartoon was that

After graduating at the London School of Economics, Percy Crowe spent over 20

subject after a first-degree training that lay at least partly in another discipline. He himself had graduated with a London BSc (Econ), but as a geographer he was to develop into a distinguished climatologist. The manuscript page was in

His students and colleagues will remember him as a man who combined a radical intellect with a humane mind.

After graduating at the London School of Economics, Percy Crowe spent over 20

round hole or a slit for a mouth. The armour-plating gave

Part of the Institute and Dr. A. ...
Museum of Geology

University news
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navy to be vicar of Rainworth with
Rainworth and acted in charge of
Woodharwich and bishop's chaplain
for the Brigade.
The Rev. B. W. Tomlinson, with the
South American Missionary Society in

Episcopal Church in Scotland
Canon A. Q. Berway, rector of St
Andrew's, Glasgow, is to
be rector of St. Margaret's, Glasgow,
from November 24
to December 1. The Rev. J. H. & B. Hopkins, rector
of St. Margaret's, Newlands, diocese of
Glasgow, is to be a canon of St. Mary's
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Physiology: £11,177 to the Dept of Structural
Biology, Science Research Council,
2, Place de la Sorbonne, Paris, France.
Wellcome Trust, £61,735 to the Dept
Biochemistry, £108,764 to the Dept
Pharmacology, £28,059 to the Dept
Physiology, £41,338 to the Dept

Today, Mrs Gladys Veronica, of Wake-on-Trent, who left estate of £3,397, bequeathed all her property to the Sunshine Homes for

ington-Smith, Mr Bryan, of Horn-
by, company director £120,825
ington, Mrs Frances Gavin, of
Lambert £216,170
ley, Mr Richard, of Chelsea and

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Coming to
terms
with Opec,
page 18

Bank of England predicts inflation and recession will raise state borrowing

By Caroline Atkinson

Government borrowing may rise next year, according to the Bank of England, though it adds that such a rise could be compatible with continued tight control of the money supply.

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin published yesterday contains a lengthy discussion of the influence on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR). This concludes that the combined effects of inflation and recession next year will tend to push up the PSBR.

The Government has not published a forecast of the PSBR for next year. To some extent, this depends on the results of the present emergency exercise to cut public spending next year, and on the results of the Treasury's forecasts in the Budget.

The Bank appears to be for a rise, it will allow City fears that a loosening of money control follows necessarily from a rise in the PSBR.

The Bank is more optimistic than the Treasury about next year's economic prospects. It forecasts a slide into recession, although

it says the timing is very uncertain, with output down by 1 to 2 per cent. The Treasury has forecast a 2 per cent drop. Inflation is expected to slow down next year, though the Bank is cautious about the prospects for a sharp reduction. It says that both lower wage rises and higher productivity will be needed to bring price inflation down.

As usual, the Bank emphasises the need for a firm and clearly articulated monetary policy. It does not hold out the hope of an early reduction in interest rates despite the prospect of a lower PSBR in the coming months. The recent rise in Minimum Lending Rate to a record 17 per cent was necessary, it says, to keep pace with the rise in inflationary expectations.

A reduction in interest rates may depend more on bringing down inflation and inflationary expectations than on holding down the PSBR.

The Government has already conceded that inflation will rise in line with PSBR next year. However, the Bank goes further than this.

It suggests that a drop in output could push up the PSBR but without making it any harder to keep to a given money target. As companies cut back spending and reduce bur-

rowing, this will make it easier for the Government to borrow to finance its deficit.

The Bank is gloomy about the prospects for the world economy next year. To some extent British exporters may be insulated from the slowdown by a continued rise in United Kingdom markets overseas, in particular those of the oil exporting countries.

Sterling's strength is blamed for much of the rapid rise in imports this year. The Bank expects the pound to remain fairly strong. The drastic deterioration in British competitiveness has still probably to feed through to exports, and the Bank warns that a further weakening of British competitiveness could "strangle the dynamic forces of expansion" which it expects by the end of 1981.

Recovery after next year's recession depends to a large extent on bringing down inflation.

In common with other forecasters, the Bank expects a tight squeeze on company profits next year. Manufacturing output, which has performed dismally, is likely to bear the brunt of the slowdown. The Bank foresees rising unemployment, and believes that companies may be forced to make workers redundant despite employment protection legislation.

CBI takes tougher attitude and aims for abolition of closed shop

By Patricia Tisdall

Management Correspondent

Confederation of British Industry policy makers hardened their attitude to the closed shop yesterday. After a lengthy debate, the council made it clear that it regarded the Government's Employment Bill as only a first step towards abolition of the closed shop.

The council instructed the steering group, dealing with industrial relations, to examine the steps which could eventually give every employee "the freedom to decide whether or not to join a trade union".

Support was given to the idea of a Bill of Rights providing the explicit right not to belong to a trade union, similar to those incorporated in the constitution of countries like West Germany, France and Italy.

In deciding to aim for an end to the closed shop, the council is endorsing a resolution passed by a narrow margin of 387 votes to 321 at the CBI national conference last month. This is more militant than previous policy, which was concerned merely to ensure that closed shops operated fairly.

Much of the earlier policy has been incorporated in the Employment Bill, which proposes, for instance, that closed shops should be introduced only after a ballot has established that at least 80 per cent of employees are in favour.

It was clear from yesterday's meeting, however, that many employers are far from satisfied with the proposed legislation. Only fear of causing excessive disruption has prevented CBI members from lobbying for more extreme measures. Their

support for the Bill yesterday was conditional on tougher measures being drawn up internally by this time next year at the latest.

Representatives from the Engineering Employers' Federation and from nationalised industries which are among the largest operators of closed shop agreements, were present at yesterday's meeting. Altogether the Trade Unions Congress estimates 5 million employees work in closed shops.

The latest report on the pay settlement, presented earlier to the council, showed no change on last month.

Threat to steel fallback pay

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

Private sector steel producers, many of whom are facing problems similar to those of the British Steel Corporation, are expected to resist any attempt to suspend guaranteed wage payments when negotiations open today.

Industry sources indicated last night that the Independent Steel Employers' Association would ask union leaders to forego the agreement which gives workers fallback pay of

80 per cent of normal when a steelworks faces a sharp drop in orders.

There will be repercussions in the private sector if the threatened strike by members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation in BSC plants goes ahead on January 2.

The ISTC has said it will instruct its members in the private sector to work no extra shifts to offset the shortfall in output from the state corporation.

Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Iron and Steel

Consumers' Council, the steel industry's watchdog, appealed to Mr William Storer, general secretary of the ISTC, to consider the interests of the steel-using industries.

Sir Richard said in a letter to Mr Storer that the stoppage would be extremely serious because for every worker employed by BSC, there were 15 others employed in steel using industries. Any lengthy disruption of supplies would lead to a number of companies going out of business.

The persistence with which Mr Peter Gyllenhammar, Volvo's president, has pursued partners has led to speculation about the financial vulnerability of his small company.

But M. Vernier-Pallier denied persistent questions suggesting Renault was rescuing Volvo.

He insisted that the first approach had come from Renault and not Volvo.

Mr Gyllenhammar revealed that Volvo had been given to improving the former DAF car company acquired by Volvo.

The deal does not involve Volvo's profitable truck and bus operations nor the marketing of any of its products. This will continue on the basis of "friendly rivalry".

A dramatic restructuring of the world's automotive industry was taking place and Volvo was in a position to keep up with it, he said. The partners were convinced that it would prove beneficial.

Average pay rises now running at 16.7 pc

By Our Economics Staff

Pay rises, accelerated in October, partly as a result of the engineering settlement. Average earnings were 16.7 per cent up on a year earlier, compared with a rise of only 14.4 per cent in September. During the month there was a sharp jump—after seasonal adjustment—of 4.4 per cent in the average earnings in production industries.

Although October's figures exaggerate the underlying monthly increase in pay, they are the first for several months to give a good guide to the annual rate of wage inflation.

This shows a definite quickening in the pace of pay rises. The level of settlements is now running at between 16 and 17 per cent, compared with 15 per cent a few months ago.

Ministers have given many warnings that high wage settlements will lead to unemployment. So far the figures indicate that pay bargainners have taken little notice.

The leap in earnings in October helped to narrow the gap between pay and price rises. However, wages are still failing to keep pace with inflation. The retail price index went up by 17.2 per cent in October, and by 17.4 per cent last month.

Real earnings have been hit this year by the rapid rise in prices, which have caught up with past pay rises and been pushed up by the A.T. It is largely for this reason that the Treasury is expecting a slow down in consumer spending next year.

The new series of average earnings, which covers employees in the whole economy, rose by 2.7 per cent in October. Half of this jump was caused by the rise in earnings of engineering workers. The dispute in September cut into engineering workers' pay, and there was a rebound in October after the pay settlement.

Extra overtime to make up lost earnings accounted for part of the rise in engineering workers' pay in October.

The figures for average earnings may worsen in the coming months as pay rises in many settlements were delayed. Workers waited to see whether the Government's pay policy would break down. This had the effect of depressing the monthly figures which will form the basis of comparison in the next few months.

Another factor likely to boost the pay figures is the effect of higher public sector wage settlements in the wake of the CBI's databank awards.

The Bank of England said in its December bulletin, published yesterday, that these could add 2 per cent to average earnings over the next 12 months.

The Government might argue that it is too soon to be gloomy about the prospects for pay in this round. Only 750,000 workers out of a total of 11.12 million in the big groups had settled by the time of the October figures.

The new series for average earnings, which covers 21 million employees, is likely to rise more quickly than the old one which covers production workers. The October rise of 16.7 per cent was the highest since the series began.

Table, page 18

Gold soars towards \$500 before closing at new record price

By Our Economics Staff

Gold soared to within a few dollars of the \$500 an ounce barrier yesterday, but it dropped back to end the day at \$489 an ounce—still a record close.

The rise of \$9.5 came amid hectic activity on the bullion markets. Dealers cited the prospect of higher oil prices and the continuing crisis between America and Iran as the main reasons for the price rise.

Silver also closed at record levels. Surprisingly, the dollar was not much affected by the gold rush. It closed slightly down on the day against most major currencies, after very quiet trading.

The table shows that if countries valued their official gold reserves at yesterday's market price, the reserves of many, especially the United States, would be enormous.

Frank Vogel writes: The International Monetary Fund will probably continue selling gold at regular auctions after its series of sales ends next May, according to IMF sources in Washington.

The IMF has become a main supplier of gold to the markets and has sold more than 6 million ounces this year. The Fund's programme, initiated four years ago, to sell 25 million ounces, ends with an auction of 44,000 ounces in May, but after this sale it will still have gold reserves of about 100 million ounces.

An IMF spokesman said no decision on whether to sell more gold had been taken. The executive board of directors has not discussed the matter, but sources close to the board said the chances were good that it

Official Gold holdings of major countries

Country	m. oz.	\$m.
USA	265.1	129,630
Germany (1)	84.9	46,400
Switzerland (1)	63.3	40,730
France (2)	81.6	39,900
Italy (1)	85.5	32,520
UK (1)	13.3	8,950
oil exporters (2, 3)	35.4	17,800

(1) Figures for end October.
(2) Figures for end September.
(3) Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Niger, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela.

will support a new round of auctions and that a final decision may be announced after the interim IMF ministerial committee meeting in Hamburg on April 25.

One important consideration concerns development aid. So far the net proceeds of IMF sales, amounting to \$3,450m since the auctions were started, have gone into a trust fund designed to provide finance to developing countries.

Top officials of the IMF admit that 1980 may see greater demands from oil-importing developing countries for IMF finance and they suggest that further gold sales could help.

M. Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the IMF, stressed recently that "an expansion in the flow of development assistance is urgently needed".

The sources also noted that there has been informal discussion at senior official level about the possible use of gold within the context of the

planned IMF substitution account. Negotiations are moving ahead to design this account for approval to the Hamburg conference.

A number of key issues have to be resolved in fashioning the account and the sources said that it is here that gold could be used. Firstly, the account will have to provide a market-related rate of interest and this may lead to some demands on the IMF's resources.

Revenue from gold sales could ease this problem. In addition, there is a danger of some exchange market losses in the management of the account and these too, suggest the sources, could be covered by revenues from gold sales.

The need for the substitution account is widely viewed as more urgent than ever and the United States Treasury, according to senior officials, is now playing a leading role in striving to complete the preparatory negotiations.

M. de Larosiere told the United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce in early December that the substitution account could enhance the stability of the world's reserves system.

He added that the account would accept deposits in United States dollars from official holders in exchange for an equivalent amount of special drawing rights—denominated claims, so reducing the dollar share of global reserves in favour of the SDR without creating additional international liquidity.

The United States Treasury does not at the moment appear to be planning major new gold selling programmes of its own for next year.

Rockefeller retirement ends era at top US bank

From Frank Vogel

US Economics Correspondent

Washington, Dec 19

An era drawing to a close at the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, one of America's largest banks, it announced today that Mr David Rockefeller will retire as chief executive officer next month and retire as chairman of the board in April 1981.

The Rockefeller family is believed to be the largest single shareholder in the Chase, with just under 2 per cent of the equity in the third largest bank in the United States.

Mr Rockefeller first became an executive at the bank in 1946 and was made chairman in 1969. He will reach the bank's mandatory retirement age of 65 next June. But the Chase board decided he should remain as chairman until the 1981 annual meeting.

He will hand over as chief executive officer in two weeks time to Mr William B. Eckerling, 53, the man Mr Rockefeller has groomed over many years as his successor.

Mr Bucker has been with Chase for more than 30 years and was appointed president in 1972.

Clearly Mr Rockefeller intends a long and orderly transition of power in the bank. Hence the considerable period from today's announcement to the time of his stepping up the chair and the decision not to



Mr. Rockefeller: link with bank spans 33 years.



Mr. Bucker: Chase president groomed as successor.

appoint anyone from outside to one of the bank's top executive posts.

Mr Rockefeller has said that substantial managerial reorganization at Chase in the past few years had made the bank "stronger than at any time that I have been associated with Chase" and implied that this made it an opportune time to hand over power.

It seems probable that even after April, 1981, he will remain on Chase's board and continue to foster contacts for the bank with leading world corporations and foreign governments.

Today's announcement means that Mr Rockefeller will relinquish day-to-day management control of the bank in the new year and four Chase executive vice presidents will be running all of its affairs along with Mr Bucker.

One of these four is bound to take over in due course from Mr Bucker as Chase's president.

The four are Mr John H. Garvey, in charge of the bank's credit committee; Mr Thomas Labrecque, who runs all retail and trust operations; Mr William Oden, chief financial officer; and Mr Barry Sullivan, in charge of wholesale and international banking activities.

Established Spanish builder Costa del Sol (East) seeks important Estate Agency in England for exclusive representation.

Edificios ToTo S.L.
Torre del Mar (Malaga)
Spain.

lock markets
Ind 422.1 up 0.8
Gilt 65.34 up 0.14

erling
2045 up 60 points
ex 69.7 up 0.1

ollar
ex 85.3 down 0.1

id
9 and ounce up 9.5

month money
3-month 16 1/2 to 16 3/4
to 14 1/2 to 14 3/4

N BRIEF

o chief
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fish
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ir Reed

ndin Pearce, chairman

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will succeed Lord

as chairman of British

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Industry, said in a

written reply yester-

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Swick's retirement on

22, was one of the

committee which

for the setting up of

Aerospace and has

its board since it was

ed in March 1977.

Business Diary, page 19

mm price up

im producers raised

ices yesterday by \$40

an ounce. It is the

me Impala and Rusten-

se two main western

's, both South African,

ressed the price this

free market price of

last night was \$643.

Financial Editor, page 19

investment

al Chemical Industries

and £3m on replacing

sampling facilities at its

nitrocellulose plant

at Yarnhill, Nitro-

is used in the manu-

of paint and printing

equipment stake

than £100m is likely to

in the United King-

dom and investment

systems for the process

over the next five

by a report commis-

sion by the Department

The water industry is

to spend about half

report soon

Wilson Committee on

industrial relations has

its final report early

Today the committee

its third research

time on small com-

panies.

ti shares boost

increase in Faranti's

pre-tax profits from

£3.5m added 20p to the

price at 399p yesterday

is that the National

Board may take

of the upturn to sell

er cent stake in the

cs group.

Financial news, page 20

a takeover

sed-based Star Group

the Cinemas chain

uses that includes 15

West End screens and

time in provincial cities.

up, which is a private

company, will now control 140

street up

Street was fractionally

26 points to 838.91 on

in 41,780,000 shares.

PRICE CHANGES

2p to 18p

4p to 48p

21 to 41

20p to 399p

e Cons 25c to 350c

change 6p to 260p

5p to 197p

8p to 350p

7p to 350p

7p to 32p

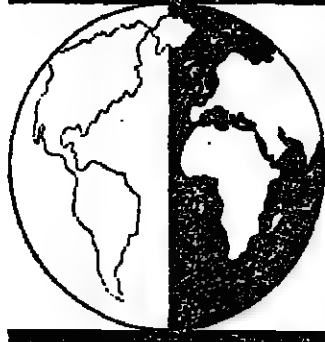
THE POUND

Bank

Bank

Bank

Bank



Commission agrees steel takeovers

The European Commission yesterday announced that it has approved two corporate takeovers as part of the restructuring of the French steel industry. It is allowing Sidor, the large French general steel producer, to take control of Societe Nouvelle des Acieries de Pompy (SNAP), manufacturer of special steels, with sales in 1978 of just under 1,000m. French francs (£111.85m).

It is also authorizing Usinor SA, another large French steel company, to take over the Rehon works from Cockerill SA of Belgium, as part of the restructuring of steelmaking in the depressed Longwy basin.

The merger will produce the largest hot rolled strip maker in the EEC with 17.6 per cent of Community output. The Usinor group will also account for about 11.5 per cent of EEC pig iron production and 8.5 per cent of crude steel output.

Italian turnover rise
The index of Italy's industry turnover rose 2.2 per cent in January-September from the like nine months of 1978, the Italian Statistics Bureau reported. The index, based on 1973 equal 100 and computed on the basis of sales at current prices, rose 2.5 per cent in September. The largest increase in turnover was in the chemical industry, at 4.7 per cent. The textile industry rose 3.6 per cent.

More German cars
West German motor vehicle production rose 3.2 per cent in November, up 3 per cent from November 1978, the Auto Industry Association reported. A total of 3,698,400 cars were produced in the first 11 months, up 2 per cent from the like 1978 period. Commercial vehicle production rose 7 per cent to 293,800 units.

French growth in 1980
The French economy is likely to expand at a rate of between 2.3 per cent next year after a growth of about 3.5 per cent in 1979, M. René Monory, French economic minister, told the Economics and Social Council.

US pay panel
President Carter's Pay Advisory Committee took a step towards replacing the current voluntary 7 per cent wage guideline with a range of annual percentage wage-and-benefit increases. It agreed informally to try to specify a recommended range and a "set of criteria" for deciding at which end of the scale a particular wage-and-benefit increase should be set.

Austrian index higher
The consumer price index in Austria last month stood at a preliminary 115.0 points, 0.4 per cent above October and 4.5 per cent higher than in November 1978, the Statistical Central Office reported yesterday.

Recession will not solve energy problems, OECD strategists say Coming to terms with Opec oil price rises

Six years after the first big increase in oil prices, and on the eve of the end of the latest Opec meeting in Caracas, senior economists at the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development believe the West has still not come to terms with the implications of dearer energy.

They feel that pressure to cut down energy consumption has been weakened by the unwillingness of industrial nations to raise the cost of energy to match fully the increase in prices which Opec has decreed.

They also feel that Governments, through their failure to take firm action to force up energy prices, have drifted into using recession as a way of cutting fuel consumption.

Officials at the OECD point out that although oil prices quadrupled in 1973, the real price of energy in 1978 was only about 22 per cent above its 1973 level. Unwillingness to raise taxes on fuels, and a refusal to allow the price of alternative energy sources to rise in line with the oil price are blamed.

A more extreme case of Government unwillingness to put up fuel prices. Seven out of ten countries studied by the OECD had lower real prices for petrol in 1978 than in 1973, because the final cost of petrol rose by less than the average level of inflation.

Companies 'misled' by emphasis on profits
By Alison Mitchell
Too much emphasis has been placed in the past on company profits, according to the Bank of England quarterly bulletin, published yesterday. This concentration on earnings has misled employers, employees and the stock market as to the real performance of United Kingdom companies.

A more relevant way of measuring a company's performance would be to look at the returns on the equity interest rather than those on the total trading assets, the bulletin says.

In this context, the downward trend in real profitability in the 1960s and early 1970s—decline in the mid-1970s—has been stemmed and there has been a modest recovery in most sectors in recent years.

Real rates of return, particularly in the chemicals industry, have been well sustained, despite acute pressure on costs. However, some sectors of manufacturing and engineering, such as metals, textiles, shipbuilding and vehicles have seen real losses in recent years.

In total, the distribution and services sector has outperformed manufacturing to a greater extent in terms of real, rather than recorded, equity profitability.

The bulletin points out the importance of changes in cost inflation as a factor accounting for changes in real profits. That this has been fairly widespread suggests that historic cost pricing has remained prevalent throughout much of industry.

John Watmore writes: "The nominal total of National Debt outstanding at March 31 rose to £87,679m from £79,988m at the end of the previous March. Market holdings of debt rose from £51,624m to £69,930m and the average life of dated stocks in market hands rose 0.3 years to 12.5 years. Of the debt in market hands, insurance companies' holdings rose from 19.7 to 23.2 per cent and pension fund holdings from 10.7 to 13 per cent.

FUTURE PROSPECTS
The intense competition prevalent in food retailing will continue to demand the highest standards of efficiency from the Group to enable it to maintain its strong position in the market place. The Board are confident that, with the co-operation and support of all staff, we can successfully cope with our expansion plans and continue to offer our customers the price advantage which has been the cornerstone of the Group's growth.

It is too early to forecast the results of the present financial year, but sales to date show an encouraging trend."

EXPANSION
During the year we opened 26 new

FIVE YEAR RECORD £000's

Year	Turnover	Profit before tax
1975	65,795	3,847
1976	91,937	5,251
1977	152,387	8,670
1978	192,890	9,918
1979	264,217	12,186

Copies of the report and accounts are available from the Company Secretary.

Kwik Save Discount Group Limited
Warren Drive, Prestatyn, Clwyd LL19 7TU

ESTIMATED DEPLOYMENT OF OIL EXPORTERS' SURELUSES

	1977	1978	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half
United Kingdom	4.1	1.3	2.1	0.3	2.3	2.8
United States	9.2	1.3	0.3	1.0	1.3	0.8
Other countries	19.8	12.8	5.8	6.0	5.4	2.1
International organizations	0.3	0.7	—	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total	33.5	13.2	8.2	7.4	9.0	5.8

Source: Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin, Dec. 1979.

The fact that the real price of energy has not risen significantly is blamed by OECD economists for the slow progress made in introducing energy saving measures. It is argued that customers would cut back demand if it were clearly in their interests to do so.

It is believed that on likely output trends within Opec, the West cannot expect to grow by more than about 21 per cent without running into severe constraints caused by energy shortages pushing up oil prices.

It is felt that holding down growth because of energy problems is a particularly inefficient way of saving energy. OECD calculations suggest that each barrel of oil saved requires the OECD to cut back its total output by

about \$240 (£109), or nearly ten times the price of the oil which has been saved.

Nor is it felt that simply allowing the Opec oil price to rise and using the price to cut back on consumption—provides an effective way out of what is seen, by some economists at least, as one of the dominating constraints of the early 1980s.

It is pointed out that this involves handing over a significant proportion of the extra output, perhaps a quarter, to the Opec producers.

Attention is turning increasingly to the idea that the Western countries themselves should put up taxes on energy, keeping the extra revenue but forcing their consumers to cut consumption.

There is particular concern to try to end the current pattern of large price increases followed by periods in which prices are flat or tend to fall. It is felt that this is unnecessarily disruptive.

Calculations made within the OECD, which are thought to have been surrounded by some controversy, suggest that it would be better for the West to accept that energy prices have to rise by 10 per cent a year for the foreseeable future than to continue and aggravate back rises of price rises and stagnation.

UK textile producers call for cut in imports
By John Huxley
British textile leaders reacted angrily yesterday to the EEC Council of Ministers' decision to postpone until February, action to halt the invasion of Community markets by cheap American imports.

During the night, the worst-hit producers which are those making man-made fibres, teleaxed Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, calling for unilateral action by the Government.

Dr Geoffrey Turner, chairman of the Man-Made Fibres Producers Committee, said that to delay a decision until February would weaken the industry still further.

Cheap imports, made possible largely by the artificially low price of energy and feedstocks available to American producers, have been blamed for the closure of plants and the loss of about 2,000 United Kingdom jobs this year.

The Government has relied on a negotiated solution with the Americans. However, it is keeping all options under review, and it has been urged that unilateral action could be taken.

In recent months, industry leaders have briefed senior ministers about the difficulties they face, especially in the fibres sector. There are fears that if the cost advantage enjoyed by the Americans continues, it could lead to a flood of exports in other, upstream chemical sectors.

During his recent visit to the United States, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, drew the attention of President Carter and groups of businessmen to the fact that British textile and clothing exports were working with economic world energy prices.

The Community ministers apparently see their February meeting as a deadline, by which time talks with American authorities should have produced an agreement.

However Mr Leonard Regan, president of the British Textile Confederation, said the Commission had failed to act with the speed and determination which is essential in this critical situation.

He said controlled prices for oil and gas give an artificial price advantage to American man-made fibres and the price for which they are used, such as yarns, fabrics and carpets.

"This advantage grows with every increase in the world price of oil. During the first quarter of 1980, the world price of naphtha, the oil-based raw material, is expected to increase by at least 20 per cent, thus giving the United States an even greater advantage," he said.

The Confederation said that if a satisfactory agreement was not reached by the end of January, the Council of Ministers should be prepared to take unilateral action.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need for careful study of product liability issues

From Mr S. B. Tietz

Sir, The REC Draft Directives on Product Liability could have far-reaching effects for all of us and it is surprising that there is so little public debate on the issues involved.

There is no obvious philosophical reason against switching liability for defect from consumers to producers, but the effects of such a switch on possible future research, innovation, manufacture of new products and therefore consumer choice should surely be explored as a significant part of a general appraisal.

There would be little benefit in trying to find a cure if that kills the patient.

As now proposed, it is intended that producers will become liable for defects in their products whether these could reasonably have been foreseen at the time of manufacture or not—I repeat, "or not". In other words any failure of a product from totally unexpected causes could still make the producer liable.

What changes is this likely to bring about? A consumer unfortunate enough to purchase a defective article already has some redress against its producer. He can also cover himself via insurance and if the failure in the product is more general, any sensible producer will modify the product before putting more of it on the market.

If a producer is automatically liable, there is an added responsibility and it is under greater pressure to recall every article of the type which has failed? Precedent in America suggests that this may be so. In one case manufacturers had to examine and adapt thousands of cars at huge costs though the risk of recall was small.

It is not clear how the risk of recall, which has been accepted to be extremely remote and probably of the order of one in a million.

If such consequential costs were to apply for example to figures in a building, where recall costs even bigger problems, they might be dramatically more expensive even than the American case quoted.

"Quite right, too," says the consumer protection lobby and now apparently also the EEC, but what is the result?

Insurers have already given warning that it may prove very difficult to get cover for the effects of recall of defective goods. What then happens when a manufacturer believes that he has discovered a good, perhaps socially highly desirable, product? However sound

and before the event in from some of the governments that had originally elected me (in Afghanistan, Ghana and Greece) were replaced by new administrations as new regimes. Yet which of the new authorities, nor myself ever considered my duty to be anything but to represent them to the best of my ability.

In the Iranian case, too, immediately after the announcement of the seizure by the United States, appropriate actions were taken by me with the IMF and with the Iranian authorities to safeguard Iranian interests. Subsequent actions, the nature of which cannot be revealed in a newspaper, were also taken (and will continue to be taken) towards that objective.

Mr David Foster
Mr David M. Foster, the chartered patent agent, who is a director of Matheson, Macrae and Company, writes to say that he is not Mr David M. Foster whose name appeared in these columns on December 14 under the heading "An institute to help inventors".

conceiving and making the Workmate Mr Hickman had made a brilliant invention and done the public a great service. These views were expressed in 1976, but in 1968, when offering the idea to a number of potential licensees, one tool company of international fame, who would probably now prefer to remain nameless, came to the conclusion that "the potential (of Workmate) could be measured in dozens rather than hundreds".

The same idea is now being successfully marketed throughout the world with sales of several million units per annum.

What better chance would Mr Hickman have had if he had put his idea to a panel of civil servants at the Patent Office for appraisal? Even if the panel had seen the potential in his idea, how would he have got industry to agree?

The scepticism of industry and its caution in taking risks is understandable, but taking chances in business is a fact of life and it is those, like Mr Hickman, who are prepared to gamble intelligently and who persevere with their ideas, who are unlikely to succeed.

Unfortunately, the individual inventor often has neither the resources nor the aptitude to press ahead commercially with his idea. The answer is difficult to find, but may well lie in organizations who have the ability to put up risk capital, in exchange for a share in the invention, and who are then prepared to develop a marketable product.

Another malaise, afflicting many parts of British industry, is the so called NIH (not invented here) syndrome. It requires strong management to insist on an idea being taken from outside and to adopt it, even if it is already in the drawing books.

MICHAEL J. ROOS, Hawthorn Cottage, Bumble Green, Nazeing, Essex.

it appears on testing, he may well find that the risk of selling it is unacceptable, especially so if insurance is not available, or, unacceptably expensive to cover for the unpredictable defects and, even worse, the consequential effects of such defects. This would apply also to research organizations or to contractors who may become responsible when installing an article.

Who then gains? Clearly not the consumer, whom the new legislation aims to protect, as he will lose the benefit of development in a whole range of goods from drugs via consumer goods to component development. Nor, on the other hand, will the consumer have any choice. Currently, he takes the risks inherent in the system and he can purchase an article or refuse to do so. Once a producer is wholly responsible, the article may simply not be produced.

Surely we should look at the implications of a risk-free existence for consumers more closely and clarify whether the total cost of the added protection is reasonable before this proposed EEC legislation is accepted.

Yours faithfully,
S. B. TIETZ
S. B. Tietz and Partners,
30-34 Macklin Street,
London WC2B 5NF

Communicating with shop-floor
From the Director-General, the Confederation of British Industry

Sir, I am sorry that Patricia Tisdall (Business News, December 18) thinks that I am "starting to sound somewhat discouraged" about progress in communicating the economic facts of life to the men and women on the factory floor.

On the contrary, I feel particularly encouraged that managers are increasingly accepting the task which faces them in communicating the business message.

Last month, the CBI organized a conference on this subject. We had expected an attendance of 150. In the event 60 executives booked in, we had to switch the event from our own premises to the Cafe Royal, and, in the end, we had to turn down many applications for places.

Though I am not discouraged, neither am I complacent. I agree with your correspondent that we face a hard task. Miss Tisdall is right—progress in this field does take a long time.

What encourages me is that many companies have thought it worthwhile to have a go. I shall provide managers with all the help I can in bridging the communication gap. And I shall go on doing so.

JOHN METEVEN, Director-General, Confederation of British Industry, London, SW1H 9LP.

Difficulties of exploiting an invention
From Mr M. J. Ross
Sir, My fellow patent agent, Mr Laurence Shaw, (Invention and the Public, December 7), suggests a service by the Patent Office of appraisal of patent specifications to advise inventors on the commercial possibilities of their inventions. I feel that this is a long overdue service.

What I feel Mr Shaw overlooks is that many of the best inventions (ie in perceiving a need, not just in satisfying a long felt want) are not illustrated in this critical situation.

He said controlled prices for oil and gas give an artificial price advantage to American man-made fibres and the price for which they are used, such as yarns, fabrics and carpets.

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life and it is those, like Mr Hickman, who are prepared to gamble intelligently and who persevere with their ideas, who are unlikely to succeed.

Unfortunately, the individual inventor often has neither the resources nor the aptitude to press ahead commercially with his idea. The answer is difficult to find, but may well lie in organizations who have the ability to put up risk capital, in exchange for a share in the invention, and who are then prepared to develop a marketable product.

Another malaise, afflicting many parts of British industry, is the so called NIH (not invented here) syndrome. It requires strong management to insist on an idea being taken from outside and to adopt it, even if it is already in the drawing books.

MICHAEL J. ROOS, Hawthorn Cottage, Bumble Green, Nazeing, Essex.

Difficulties of exploiting an invention
From Mr M. J. Ross
Sir, My fellow patent agent, Mr Laurence Shaw, (Invention and the Public, December 7), suggests a service by the Patent Office of appraisal of patent specifications to advise inventors on the commercial possibilities of their inventions. I feel that this is a long overdue service.

What I feel Mr Shaw overlooks is that many of the best inventions (ie in perceiving a need, not just in satisfying a long felt want) are not illustrated in this critical situation.

He said controlled prices for oil and gas give an artificial price advantage to American man-made fibres and the price for which they are used, such as yarns, fabrics and carpets.

"This advantage grows with every increase in the world price of oil. During the first quarter of 1980, the world price of naphtha, the oil-based raw material, is expected to increase by at least 20 per cent, thus giving the United States an even greater advantage," he said.

The Confederation said that if a satisfactory agreement was not reached by the end of January, the Council of Ministers should be prepared to take unilateral action.

During his recent visit to the United States, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, drew the attention of President Carter and groups of businessmen to the fact that British textile and clothing exports were working with economic world energy prices.

The Community ministers apparently see their February meeting as a deadline, by which time talks with American authorities should have produced an agreement.

However Mr Leonard Regan, president of the British Textile Confederation, said the Commission had failed to act with the speed and determination which is essential in this critical situation.

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The advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of the Stock Exchange. It is not an invitation to any person to subscribe for or purchase any shares in Turnbull Scott Holdings Limited.

TURNBULL SCOTT HOLDINGS LIMITED

Authorized	SHARE CAPITAL	Issued and fully paid
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500,000	In Non-Voting 'A' Ordinary Shares of £1 each	497,560
1,000,000		995,128

The Council of the Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the issued Ordinary and Non-Voting 'A' Ordinary Shares of Turnbull Scott Holdings Limited.

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.
1.00 Peppermint at One: With Tony Blair's regular movie feature. Michael Smith has some Christmas food ideas.
1.45 The Plumpies: children's story. What a Carrot (r).
2.00 Film: Life with Father (1947). Turn-of-the-century romantic comedy with William Powell and Irene Dunne as the fond parents and Elizabeth Taylor as the upstart of domestic calm.
3.55 Play School: the story of The Mail Coach. Plus old-fashioned Christmas scenes at Bessall, Derbyshire.
4.20 Deputy Dawg: the cartoon Mr. Moot (r).
4.25 Jacksons: Spike Milligan reads part 3 of Help I'm a Prisoner in a Toothpaste Factory, by John Anon.
4.40 Screen Test: movie quiz. With Gainsborough High School and Newark Magdalen High School.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as BBC 1, 2.55. Close down at 11.25.
5.40 pm Laurel and Hardy: Fit for Tat. A sequel to last night's comedy. They Tar Rills, Stanley and Oliver open an electrical shop next door to a grocer's shop run by the same couple involved in the liquor-well complications in Them Tar Rills. One of Laurel and Hardy's most destructive short films.
6.00 Film: I See Ice (1938). Last in this season of George Formby comedies. George plays a photographer's assistant who becomes an ice-hockey referee.
7.20 A Bear's Christmas: cartoon.
7.30 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

THAMES

9.30 am Secret Diaries: William Tredwell's Daily Journal. The year was 1832. A dramatized document about life in those days (r).
9.55 Dynasties: The Great Britain Train Robbery: animated adventure.
10.15 Family: A Tale Out of Season. Another story about an American family, the Lawrence.
11.05 Survival Special: Search for the Sibirians. How they extricated the dead and their belongings from a frozen Japanese submarine in the Pacific.
11.55 The Bubbles: cartoon.
12.00 Topper's Tales: The late (sorely missed) Julian Orchard tells the story of Father Christmas (r).
12.10 pm Stepping Stones: the theme is things wooden.
12.30 The Sullivan: stories of an Australian family in the last war.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Armchair Theatre: The Limbo Connection. Final episode of Philip Mackie's drama about a missing wife. Starring James Bolan.
2.00 Afternoon Pms. Includes an exclusive interview with Robert

7.40 A Kind of Childhood: Gamin. Award-winning film (by Ciro Duran) about the beggar children who live in the streets of Bogota, Colombia. It focuses on seven-year-old Pinocchio who sleeps in a cardboard box.
8.30 Premiere: Weekend. First play to be directed by cameraman John Burrow. It is written by Ian Kennedy Martin. Kenneth Haigh is the playwright, spending a winter weekend at a hotel. Ann Pirbright is the actress who seems to be giving in to him.
9.00 Kelly Meneith: comedy sketches starring the American comedian. Gabrielle Drake plays his wife.
9.30 Still Centre: Winchester Cathedral 1079-1979. The private life

and the public role of this noble pile (founded by William the Conqueror), from Palm Sunday to the 10.30 Richard Scudgell. A light-hearted look at the week's people and events. With Barbara Dickson and classical flute player Eleni Duras.
10.55 News and weather.
11.10 The Old Grey Whistle Test: Highlights of the concert given at the Wembley Conference Centre earlier this year by Mike Oldfield.
11.20 rock musicians, 11 members of the Queen's College Girls' Choir, and an orchestra of 50 conducted by David Bedford.
11.35 am Close down. Martin Seymour-Smith's poem What Schoolmasters Say, read by David Markham.

4.15 Project UFO: the mysterious thing that chases two men down a mountain.
5.15 Mr and Mrs. Derek Batzy and his matrimonial quiz game.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.
6.25 Crossroads: motel series.
7.00 Tommy Steele's musical fable set in a toy store at Christmas time (see Personal Choice).
8.30 The Jim Davidson Show: Comedy half-hour (r).
9.00 Fallen Hero: Last part of this serial about a former Rugby League player. Tonight, his wife is accused of murder and he offers to pay for the defence.
10.00 News.
10.30 A Famous Journey: Kenneth Griffiths, actor and historical researcher of high repute, goes to the Holy Land, in the steps of the Three Wise Men. He calls the result an agnostic's view of the life of Jesus.
11.30 Late Night Elkie: Songs from Elkie Brooks with the Humphrey Lyttelton band.
12.00 What the Papers Say: News review by Bill Tidy, cartoonist.
12.15 Close. Another reading, by Andrew Griffiths, from Through the Year with J. B. Phillips.

Barbara Murray: ITV, 2.45.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.20 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.05 Fat Man on a Bicycle (2).
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Bandman's Daughter.
11.00 News.
11.05 Film on 4.
11.50 A Certain Style.
12.00 News.
12.05 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Comedy: Foley.
12.35 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.03 Woman's Hour.
2.30 News.
3.02 Listen with Mother.
3.15 Play: In-Flight Reunion, by Christopher Jones.
4.15 Any Answers?
4.45 Story: Quids in for Christmas.
5.20 News.
5.30 Lord Peter Wimsey: Strong.
6.00 News.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse.
7.30 Carols from the Phil (Liverpool) pt 1.
8.15 John Wells (2).
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Night at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15, 12.25 am Weather.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Steve Jones. 7.32 Ray Moore. 10.03 Jimmy Young. 12.15 pm Waggoners' Walk. 12.30 Pete Murray. 2.15 David Hamilton. 4.15 Much More music. 5.00 News. 5.05 Waggoners' Walk. 5.20 John Dunn.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 435m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-91.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/747m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 124m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 26m, 94.3 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

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As Thames except: Starts 9.30 am Good Afternoon. 10.10 am News. 10.30 am News. 11.00 am News. 11.30 am News. 12.00 pm News. 12.30 pm News. 1.00 pm News. 1.30 pm News. 2.00 pm News. 2.30 pm News. 3.00 pm News. 3.30 pm News. 4.00 pm News. 4.30 pm News. 5.00 pm News. 5.30 pm News. 6.00 pm News. 6.30 pm News. 7.00 pm News. 7.30 pm News. 8.00 pm News. 8.30 pm News. 9.00 pm News. 9.30 pm News. 10.00 pm News. 10.30 pm News. 11.00 pm News. 11.30 pm News. 12.00 pm News. 12.30 pm News. 1.00 pm News. 1.30 pm News. 2.00 pm News. 2.30 pm News. 3.00 pm News. 3.30 pm News. 4.00 pm News. 4.30 pm News. 5.00 pm News. 5.30 pm News. 6.00 pm News. 6.30 pm News. 7.00 pm News. 7.30 pm News. 8.00 pm News. 8.30 pm News. 9.00 pm News. 9.30 pm News. 10.00 pm News. 10.30 pm News. 11.00 pm News. 11.30 pm News. 12.00 pm News. 12.30 pm News. 1.00 pm News. 1.30 pm News. 2.00 pm News. 2.30 pm News. 3.00 pm News. 3.30 pm News. 4.00 pm News. 4.30 pm News. 5.00 pm News. 5.30 pm News. 6.00 pm News. 6.30 pm News. 7.00 pm 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